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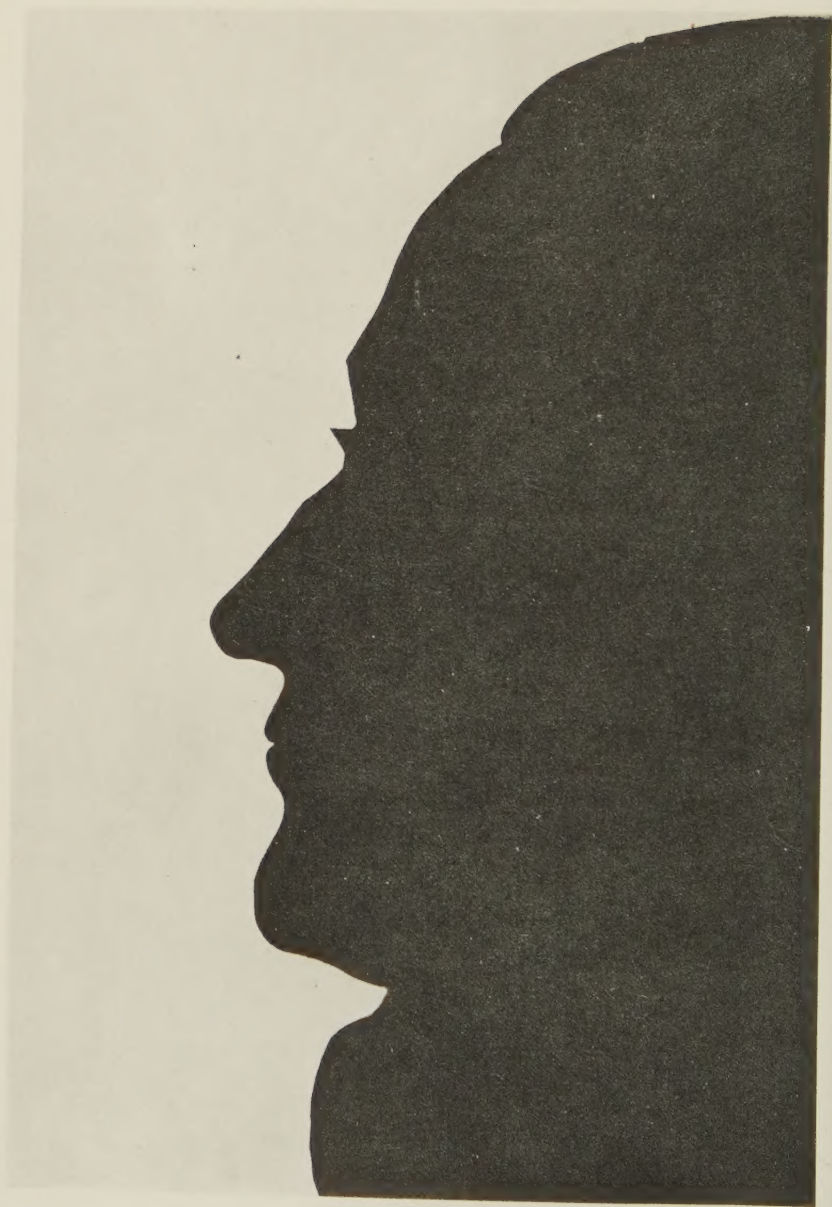
THE DIARY  
OF A  
COUNTRY PARSON

VOLUME IV









JAMES WOODFORDE

THE DIARY  
OF A  
COUNTRY PARSON

The Reverend James Woodforde

EDITED BY  
JOHN BERESFORD

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VOLUME IV  
1793-1796

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## INTRODUCTION

‘WE drank Tea, supped and slept at our comfortable, happy, thatched Dwelling. Our People had been expecting us some time.’ It is Wednesday, November 4, 1795, and Parson Woodforde and Nancy have just come back to Weston Parsonage after a visit to Somerset. As we read the words, a hundred and thirty-four years vanish in the twinkling of an eye, and 1929 is 1795.

What is this magic which can make of time a very shadow that passes away? We cannot analyse it. It suffices to say that Parson Woodforde had the rare faculty of seeing the world in which he lived, as one sees the bottom of a stream through clear water. Look into the stream for a moment: there is ‘Miss Mist out of the West Country. . . . Miss Mist is about 17 very delicate and pleasing’; there is ‘my old Clerk, Js. Smith, who seems to be going now very fast to his last home’; there is nephew Bill and his wife—‘They sport away in their second hand flashy one Horse-Chaise with plated furniture’; there is Mr. Mellish—Vicar of Honingham in succession to Parson Du Quesne—‘quite a young Man, fair with flaxen hair, rather short and lisps, very much of the true Gentleman in his behaviour’; there is Mr. Du Quesne a few months before his death, seventy-five years old, complaining much of ‘being terribly shook about in his Chaise by the badness of the roads more particularly those of his own Parish. Mr. Du Quesne is very far advanced in Years but he will not own it. He is by no means fit to drive a single Horse Chaise . . . he will not however wear Spectacles at all. He cannot bear to appear old, but must be as young in anything as the youngest Person’; finally there is Parson Woodforde himself on Sunday, August 24, 1794—‘I got

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up very indifferent this Morn' such a lowness upon my Spirits, and sinking within me. After dinner thank God! was something better. I read Prayers, Preached & christened a Child this Aft. at Weston Church. Miss Woodforde at Church . . . . '

How complete are all these descriptions, and how admirable the economy of words used in the describing! One wonders if, in order to speak the truth, it is necessary to say very little: certainly Miss Mist will remain in our minds long after the Misses of numberless novels are forgotten.

The present volume of the Diary records the death of various familiar friends—among them Mr. Du Quesne, Mr. Pounsett, Mr. Bodham, and introduces new ones, of whom the Corboulds are most frequently named. Mr. Corbould, the son of a Norwich Hatter 'of whom I have had many a Hat'—Mr. Corbould Senior's prudent figure emerges in the course of the Diary—is already a Clergyman when we meet him on February 10, 1794, just after his Wedding Day. Prosperous and leisurely like Mr. Bodham—it was the golden age of leisureliness—he also, like Mr. Bodham, has no Living of his own, but does duty for his neighbours, and soon becomes almost a permanent *quasi* Curate to Parson Woodforde. Despite the war and its terrors, it is clear that the last years of the eighteenth century are about to glide peacefully into the first years of the nineteenth, and we realize that Parson Woodforde and Jane Austen are links in a chain: in 1795 Jane Austen is twenty, Parson Woodforde fifty-five, that is all. It is, therefore, natural that we should meet the same people, with a difference, in the Diary and in the Novels. Some people, of course, have always existed and will, we apprehend, continue to exist—as, for instance, Mr. Barnwell: 'Mr. Barnwell is a gentleman of considerable Property much afflicted



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with the Gout, has travelled a good deal over England, and well acquainted with Families.’<sup>1</sup>

Meanwhile occasional references in the Diary remind us that England is engaged in a desperate struggle: how desperate it is becoming hard to realize with 1914-18 so near in memory. Famine prices, piercing winters, angry mobs, Ireland on the verge of rebellion, rumours of invasion—of these things we get glimpses in the placid pages of Parson Woodforde’s daily Journal. The tranquillity is roughly broken on October 29, 1795, when the Diarist and his niece were caught in that terrifying crowd which thronged the Horse Guards and mobbed King George III as he was going to open Parliament. Let those Historians who censure Pitt for the measures he took thereafter against the dangers of sedition, imagine themselves being hustled on that occasion, and let them also recall that these things were experienced by people who for six years had watched the French Revolution proceeding in a continual torrent of senseless bloodshed. It was not a time to talk, but to govern, and the future of Europe depended then on the stability of England and for many a long year to come.

‘England’, said Pitt in the House of Commons on October 6, 1796, ‘has never shewn itself deficient in firmness and magnanimity; it is unrivalled in resource; it has always been foremost in the career of honourable exertion, and it has only to maintain its accustomed vigour and perseverance, to effect the restoration of general tranquillity upon terms consistent with the dignity of its own character, and the security and interest of Europe.’<sup>2</sup> This speech was made when Pitt had decided that no stone must be left unturned to obtain an honourable peace, and the melancholy outcome of the negotiation is

<sup>1</sup> Entry for June 23, 1796.

<sup>2</sup> Pitt’s *Speeches*, vol. ii, p. 430.

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told in the final entry of the present volume. Parson Woodforde's words on that last day of the year 1796, in their solemn simplicity, are the country echo of the heroic patience of Pitt.

From the present volume of the Diary it is borne in upon us that Parson Woodforde is ageing, and that he is becoming rather hypochondriacal. It is true that, in 1793 and again in 1795, he and Nancy journey into the West Country and that we enjoy *en route* short visits to London, to Bath, and, on one of the return journeys, to Oxford. At the same time it is also true that, despite fat women, band boxes, dogs, and sick children, travelling at top speed down the Mail Coach Roads was regarded by our ancestors as an exquisite pleasure. 'I am always', said Gibbon in a letter to Lord Sheffield, dated October 9, 1793, 'so much delighted and improved, with this union of ease and motion, that, were not the expense enormous, I would travel every year some hundred miles, more especially in England.'<sup>1</sup>

Still, Parson Woodforde feels that time is passing upon him, and the symptoms of ill-health are described with an increasing minuteness and morbidity. He is thoroughly frightened by fainting in Church on Christmas Day, 1794, and in the Autumn of 1795 Mr. Corbould, though engaged nominally for six months as Curate, continues in that capacity for the rest of the period covered by the present volume.

Apart from this morbid concern for his health, perhaps the most vivid impression conveyed in this portion of the Diary is the intense cold of the Winters, specially that terrible Winter, which kept on coming back, of 1794-5. Ah! how bitter it was—the snow, the frost, the cutting winds outside, the shuddering sharpness of the air within

<sup>1</sup> Gibbon's *Autobiography*, p. 323 (World's Classics edition).

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—milk frozen solid in the milk pans in the Dairy, the chill Study, the ice-cold bed-rooms. We see many birds lying dead and ‘the Rooks and Crows so tame that they come up to the Kitchen door where I feed my Poultry’. Fortunately for the Poor the fount of eighteenth-century Charity seems to have flowed with generous freedom, and bread and coal are given for many months—Squire Custance and Parson Woodforde each subscribing £10 to the general collection.<sup>1</sup> So free indeed is the charitable stream on all and every occasion of distress that Widow Greaves Junior gains greatly through losing her cow: she gets £6 from her petition and buys a new cow for £4.<sup>2</sup> Even Americans get charitable aid—which I hope my rich readers in the United States will appropriately note.<sup>3</sup>

What excellent names Parson Woodforde’s servant boys had! Billy Downing, Timothy Tooley who runs away to enlist and turns up at the Parsonage a day or two later with his cockade, looking so happy—‘Poor Fellow’, lazy Thomas Tooley, that ‘most saucy swearing lad’ John Brand, Barnabas Woodcock, aged only eleven or twelve, but fortunately no one has yet heard of ‘school age’. The reader will find a thousand other things to surprise or amuse him: how two men of Sudbury’s carried a Side-Board and a large mahogany Cellaret on their shoulders from Norwich to Weston Parsonage; how Niece Jane Pounsett wrote a letter with ‘a great deal about nothing at all’ in it; what a capital Inn the White Hart at Bath was, ‘kept by one Pickwick’; how naughty Nancy was at times, grumbling about the dullness of life; how Mrs. Corbould received a kettle of boiling water into her lap; how Mrs.

<sup>1</sup> See entries for Feb. 5 and 13, 1795.

<sup>2</sup> Entry for Feb. 9, 1796.

<sup>3</sup> Sept. 5, 1795 ‘To a very poor old Man, 85 Years old, and a Native of North America, a very thankful Man, gave o. 1. o.’

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Jeans was put out of action by Nancy;<sup>1</sup> how insolent Briton could be; how Sister Pounsett eats 'too gross things'; how the Rev. Mr. Maynard was 'rather bosky' one day; what an astonishing dream Parson Woodforde had of a sumptuous cold supper at Mr. Coke's; how complicated the Post was on occasion;<sup>2</sup> how Ben and Briton, in placid defence of their country, were enrolled in the Eynesford Hundred Loyal Association.

But the views in this pleasant Woodforde landscape are endless. Reader, forget all that laboured learning, all that toil and trouble, and bustle of town life! Come out into the country and be at peace!

'Enough of Science and of Art;  
Close up those barren leaves;  
Come forth, and bring with you a heart  
That watches and receives.'

JOHN BERESFORD.

ASHWELL END,  
BALDOCK, HERTS.  
*August 12, 1929.*

First and foremost I must thank my wife for correcting the proofs of the present volume; but for her aid it would not be ready. I have also to thank my friend Dr. R. E. H. Woodforde for the Silhouette Portrait of the Diarist; Mrs. Johnson, (née Catherine Bodham Donne) for the portraits of the Rev. Thos. Bodham and his wife; Sir H. B. Bacon, Bart. for the portrait of Sir Edmund Bacon; Lady

<sup>1</sup> August 25, 1794: '... Mrs. Jeans took Miss Woodforde up pretty sharply, but Nancy silenced her very soon.'

<sup>2</sup> Dec. 29, 1793: 'Recd. a Letter this Morning from Mr. Webb of London (by John Bates's Son of Lenewade Bridge who had it of Sr. Lambert Blackwells Servant of Easton, but had of Bacon, Norwich).'



## INTRODUCTION

Alfred Douglas for the photograph of Weston House; and Mr. F. W. Dendy for lending me a copy of Dawson Turner's *List of Norfolk Benefices*.

Any portraits or information of ancestral persons named in the Diary will be welcome from any reader. Should the information forthcoming justify it, it would be pleasant to supplement the fifth and final volume of the Diary with relevant notes and illustrations of persons mentioned by Parson Woodforde.

*The Seasons thus,  
As ceaseless round a jarring world they roll,  
Still find them happy ; and consenting Spring  
Sheds her own rosy garland on their heads:  
Till evening comes at last, serene and mild.*

THOMSON'S *Seasons*.

## PART II (*continued*)

WESTON LONGEVILLE, NORFOLK

### The Diary

— Anno Domini, 1793 —

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 1<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mr. Press Custance called on us this Morning and stayed with us about an Hour. He came to enquire about my Servant Lad Downing, he being too big for his present place and deserving of a better, I gave him a good Character to Mr. Press Custance. Mr. Press had a Letter from his Brother on Saturday last, they desired to be particularly remembered to us. They were all tolerably well. The young Gentlemen are now with them at Bath. As this is the beginning of a New Year, I hope it will prove a happy one to us and to all. Dinner to day, Tripe, boiled Pork and Shoulder of Veal, blade-bone broiled. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy won o. 6.

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 5, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich with ten Coomb of Barley to Mr. Bloome. Ben returned about 5. in the Afternoon. A very bad day of Weather he had to be out, sharp Frost early in the Morning with Snow &c. after. No Accident however happened thank God. He left the Barley with Mr. Bloome but no money returned, or price fixed on the same. . . .

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 7, Monday. . . . Settled my Annual Accounts with Nancy this morning and paid her in Cash 8. 11. o which with 1. 9. o, paid to Bagshaw by me for her last

Week, makes up 10. 0. 0. Paid my Servants their Years Wages this morning. To Ben, paid 10. 0. 0. To Briton paid 8. 0. 0. To Betty paid 5. 5. 0. To Winfred, paid 5. 5. 0. Out of which she repaid me 1. 1. 0. To the Boy, Downing 2. 6. 6. Out of which he repaid me 1. 1. 0. Dinner to day boiled beef &c.

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 11, Friday. . . . Yesterday Afternoon at Lenewade Bridge The Effigy of Tom Paine and a fox's Skin were hung on a Gibbet and afterwards burnt. A Barrel of Beer was given on the Occasion.<sup>1</sup>

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 12, Saturday. . . . Carys Folks brought my News-Papers &c. from Norwich. No Letters whatever. The poor King and Queen of France &c. still in the same perilous Situation.

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 14, Monday. . . . I privately named a Child this Morning at my House of Dinah Bushell Jun<sup>r</sup> a single Woman ; Father, J<sup>s</sup> Pratt, by name, Honor.

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 15, Tuesday. . . . To an old Fisherman by name Turner for some Spratts, paid 1. 0. To Ditto, for a Brief, gave, 2. 0. Dinner to day fryed Spratts, Pigs fry &c. N.B. Much deceived in the Spratts, being salt instead of fresh Spratts.

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 18, Friday. . . . At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy, won, 0. 6. Mem. promised Nancy a new riding Habit and Hat.

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 19, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton on horseback this morning to Norwich after News-papers &c. Briton returned to dinner. There was a mad dog ran through our Parish Yesterday and by our House, and

<sup>1</sup> See footnote, vol. iii, p. 379, for Tom Paine. The episode of the fox's skin indicates how unpopular Fox was for his sympathetic attitude to France and the Revolution. He had violently attacked the Government after the opening of Parliament on December 13. (See the footnote to vol. iii, p. 393, also Lecky, *England in the Eighteenth Century*, vol. vii, pp. 96-103).

People after him about our dinner time, we heard nothing of it, till this Afternoon by Briton. Our Dogs I hope escaped. By the public papers this day, there appears but very small hopes at present of the King of France long remaining here upon earth, his blood-thirsty Enemies being so wicked and inveterate against him. Pray God however he may escape, if not, may his earthly Crown be changed into an heavenly one.<sup>1</sup>

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 21, Monday. . . . Billy Downing having got a place in the house of Mr. Press Custance's at Lyng, left my Service this Evening, and the Boy Timothy Tooley about 12. Years old succeeded him. I paid Downing for his fortnights Wages 0. 2. 6. Gave him also on going away an extra 2. 6.

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 22. . . . To 9. Cambrick Stocks 3 Yards at 7<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup> per Yd. of Mr. Aldridge with a Cart of Goods, p<sup>d</sup> 1. 1. 0. To Ditto, for 3 y<sup>rds</sup> of Muslin to make half a Dozen Cravats at 8<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, pd. 1. 4. 0. Mr. Priest of Reephams called here in his way to Du Quesnes on foot, had some Gin and Water and a Cake, and at one set of for Berries Hall.

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 24, Thursday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne and Mr. Priest called on us about one o'clock, and as it [had] been partly agreed that they would dine with us this day, were much disappointed, that they did not, having provided accordingly. They did not get out of the Carriage. Mr. Priest was going home, Mr. Du Quesne gave him a help. We thought by Mr. Priests laughing that they were going to make Mr. Jeans a morning visit and would return to us to dinner, We waited therefore half an Hour beyond our dinner

<sup>1</sup> Louis XVI was executed on January 21, 1793: see footnote, vol. iii, pp. 396-7, and the entry for January 26 following.

time but no appearance of them at all. Their abrupt way of leaving us also made us think that they had some intention of returning, especially as I told them that I had provided a Dinner for them, a boiled Leg of Mutton and Capers, boiled Tripe, a couple of fine fat Ducks roasted and mince Pies. As they did not dine with us the Ducks were saved. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy won, o. 6.

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 26, Saturday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Dinner to day Souse, Veal Pye and Calfs Heart roasted. Billy Bidewells People brought our Newspapers from Norwich. The King of France Louis 16 inhumanly and unjustly beheaded on Monday last by his cruel, blood-thirsty Subjects. Dreadful times I am afraid are approaching to all Europe. France the foundation of all of it. The poor King of France bore his horrid fate with manly fortitude and resignation. Pray God he may be eternally happy in thy heavenly Kingdom. And have mercy upon his Queen, 2. Children and their Aunt Princess Elizabeth, all of whom by the Papers are very ill indeed in their confinement. Their lives are in great danger now of being taken away by the French Assassins or Ruffians.<sup>1</sup>

Jan. 27, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church, pretty full Congrega-

<sup>1</sup> Marie Antoinette was guillotined on October 16, 1793, during the Reign of Terror; her son, Louis XVII (*de jure*) died in 1795; her daughter, Madame Royale, was released to her Austrian relatives in December of the same year, married the Duke of Angoulême in 1799, and survived till 1851. The King's sister, the Princess Elizabeth (described by Horace Walpole in a letter dated November 14, 1793, as 'the angelic Madame Elizabeth'), was guillotined on May 10, 1794. Of the execution of Louis XVI, Lecky observes (vol. vii, p. 156): 'Since the massacre of St. Bartholomew no event in a foreign country had produced such a thrill of horror in England.' Even Fox declared it to be 'a most revolting act of cruelty and injustice'.



tion. Dinner to day, Breast of Veal roasted &c. To my old Clerk J<sup>s</sup> Smith, very ill, gave 1. 0. poor old James looked very bad to day.

Jan<sup>ry</sup> 28, Monday. . . . Nancy not over nice this Evening.

Feb. 1st, Friday. . . . Poor young Tom Cary only Child of Taylor Carys about 21 Years of Age, died this Morn' of a violent Fever, very soon carried off. His Parents almost distracted about him. He was beloved by all that knew him it is said as being a very good-natured, inoffensive Man. At Cribbage this Evening w<sup>th</sup> Nancy won 0. 6.

Feb. 2, Saturday. . . . Sent 10. Coomb of grey Peas early this Morn' to Norwich in my great Cart—Ben went with them. He returned about 5. this Afternoon, all safe and well (thanks to God for it). I rec<sup>d</sup> of him for my Peas, at 15<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup> per Coomb, of Bloome 7. 10. 0. Dinner to day boiled Beef &c. Duck roasted. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy won 0. 0. 6. Great Changes in the political Hemisphere, The Prince of Wales gone over to the Ministry, Lord Loughborough made Lord Chancellor &c.<sup>1</sup>

Feb. 3, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Morn' at Weston-Church. Dinner to day, a roasted Leg of Mutton &c. At 4 o'clock this Afternoon walked to Weston-Church and buried poor young Tho<sup>s</sup> Cary, aged only 21 Years. A great Number of People attended the Funeral and Weston Singers, sung on the Occasion. Gave my old Clerk J<sup>s</sup> Smith, very weak 0. 1. 0. Rec<sup>d</sup> for publishing Banns, 0. 3. 0.

Feb. 4, Monday. . . . Nancy rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from Mrs. Custance at Bath, by Barnard Dunnell of Morton

<sup>1</sup> For the Prince of Wales, see footnote to vol. iii, p. 64, and for Lord Loughborough, the footnote to vol. ii, pp. 146-7.

brought to his house by the Norwich Carrier and cost one shilling, two pence more for the bringing it from Norwich. No Date in the Letter or from whence wrote, but by the London Mark on it, find it Jan<sup>ry</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> therefore it must have laid about some time. Dinner to day a Fillet of Vcal roasted &c.

Feb. 5, Tuesday. . . . Sent Ben this morning after breakfast with a Note to Mrs. Greene at Elsing-Hall, to let her know that Mrs. Custance beg[s] to be remembered to her and Mrs. Lobb, as Nancy's Letter mentioned. After breakfast I drove Nancy to Mr. Du Quesnes in my Curricie, stayed an Hour with him, and returned home to dinner, he is got finely.

Feb. 7, Thursday. . . . Mr. Custance arrived this afternoon about 4. o'clock at Weston House from Bath, very well. . . .

Feb. 8. . . . Mr. Custance was so kind as to make us a long morning Visit tho' rainy most of the Morning. Mrs. Custance and Family he left well at Bath. Mrs. Custance sent Nancy by Mr. Custance a small present of Tunbridge Ware, a kind of Vice with a Cushion to pin work to at a Table. Also a large wooden Spoon and a four-pronged wooden Fork for dressing up a Sallad, quite fashion. Mr. Custance looked tolerably well after his Journey. My left side of my Face much swelled again.

Feb. 9, Saturday. . . . My face swelled rather more this Morning, but not very painful, thank God for it. Mr. Jeans made us a morning Visit. Sent Ben early this morning with 8 Coomb of Peas to Mr. Bloomes at Norwich, he returned about 5 o'clock in the Afternoon, all safe. He did not receive the Money for the Peas, but brought me a Note of the same being received. Dinner to day, Neck of Mutton boiled &c.

Mr. Brainthwaithe we hear has left Taverham, sold his Horses, Hounds, Carriages &c. N.B. It is reported that he lived too fast &c. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy won o. 6.

Feb. 10, Sunday. . . . My face much swelled this Morning and painful, it made me rather low, having duty to do at Church, and a very winterly and cold day with very rough, and very cold Winds, with Hail Snow and Rain. Wind piercingly cold. However I walked to Church in the Afternoon with my face quite exposed, and read Prayers and Preached. Pray God my face might not suffer. It was most exceeding cold on my return. It almost took away my breath. Wind so high. Mr. Custance was at Church and full Congregation. Gave my old Clerk (J<sup>s</sup> Smith) very poorly, 1. o. I thank God! that I did not find myself worse in my face, tho' being out in such severe Weather. Dinner to day Loin of Veal roasted &c.

Feb. 12, Tuesday. . . . My face near the same as Yesterday, tho' I used Hartshorn last night and kept part of my face very warm with flannell all Night. Had not as I know of, one hours sleep all night, very restless, but thank God not in much pain. A Pain also this morning attacked my right great Toe and made it swell, all gouty humour. It rained a good deal in the night and windy. The morning fair and dry, but cold rough Winds. Mr. Custance was so kind as to call this Morn' to enquire after me. He stayed about an Hour. He had been to Mr. Du Quesne's, but did not find him at home, being gone to Norwich. The pain in my face and swelling much abated this Evening, but my great Toe more and more painful. Nancy complained of the Wind Cholic this Evening. We both took some Rhubarb going to bed.

Feb. 13, Wednesday. . . . Got up this morning with very great pain in my foot, scarce able to walk, obliged to put on one of my great Shoes, before I could get down Stairs, but my face almost well. Am very glad that the pain and swelling are got to the extremities, Spirits much better. Nancy had a bad night, cholicky pains upon her most part of the Night, abated about 5. o'clock in the Morning, and was tolerably well all day thank God ! It was well she took some Rhubarb last Night, but better if the night before. Ben and Briton took my Dogs out this morning to get a Hare, returned about Noon with one. Mr. Jeans called here this morning whilst we were at breakfast, he was going to Norwich desired him to dine with us on his return, which he did about 3 o'clock, stayed about an Hour after Dinner and then went for Witchingham. We had for Dinner, boiled Leg of Mutton and Caper Sauce, some hashed Duck and mince pye. Had my bed warmed at Night and a fire [in] my Chamber. My pain in the foot much better this Evening.

Feb. 14, Thursday. . . . Was very comfortable in bed all night, having very little pain in my foot, but could not sleep scarce all night and when I did sleep had very unpleasant dreams, perspired much however. The pain in my foot much better and face brave. This being Valentine I gave to the Children of my Parish under 14 Years of Age, 64 in all, 5. 4. Mr. Du Quesne called here in his way to Jeans, and Priests, he dines at Witchingham to day, to Morrow at Priests and the day after at Weston. Dinner to day, boiled Beef and a fine rost Pig. Red Wine and Water after dinner with my Pipe. Water Gruel and red Wine and Water agree with me. Rec<sup>d</sup> for Butter this Evening at 11<sup>d</sup>, o. 3. 2½. Had a fire again in my Chamber this

Evening and Bed warmed at bed-time. On going to bed to night had little or no pain either in foot or face, quite brave.

Feb. 15, Friday. . . . Thank God ! my foot and face continue brave. Did not sleep well the beginning of the Night and was restless with low melancholy Ideas but towards the Morn' more composed and slept. Sent Briton this Morning to Norwich on horseback to get some fish &c. for dinner to Morrow. He returned about 5. this Afternoon, all well. Dinner to day a fine Hare roasted &c. Played at Cribbage this Evening with Nancy—even. Brave thank God this Evening. Had a Fire again this Evening in my Chamber. Drank red Wine and Water again to day. Water Gruel, red Wine and Water, and a fire in my Room at night, seem to have done me good.

Feb. 16, Saturday. . . . Could not sleep last Night till a late Hour, but blessed be God, got up this Morning free from pain. Mr. Custance, Mr. Du Quesne and Mr. Priest of Reepham, dined and spent the Afternoon with us. Mr. and Mrs. Jeans were invited but neither came. I did not expect Mrs. Jeans as the Evenings are cold, but Mr. Jeans promised me almost a Week ago. They both however dined Yesterday at Mr. Priests and stayed there till after 7, tho' in an open Cart. Mr. Priest went for Reepham soon after Tea. Mr. Custance and Mr. Du Quesne stayed and played two Rubbers at Whist. Mr. Du Quesne and Nancy against me and Mr. Custance. We won, 1. 0 which I returned to Nancy after. It was 8 o'clock before they went away. We gave them for Dinner, three very fine fresh Codlings, a large Piece of boiled beef, Peas Soup, a very large fine fat Turkey (15 Pounds) roasted, Weston Parsonage—Charter, Pud-



ding, hot mince Pies and Damson Tarts, all very well cook'd. Our News Papers to day were brought by W<sup>m</sup> Bidewell. Mr. Custance eat very heartily for Dinner.

Feb. 18, Monday. . . . I walked to Church this morning about 11 o'clock and married James Pratt and Rose Bush, by Banns as I had rec<sup>d</sup> 3<sup>s</sup>/o<sup>d</sup> before for publishing their Banns, took only for marrying them, 2. o. Dinner to day, Peas Soup, hashed Hare &c. Thank God ! I continue tolerably well.

Feb. 21, Thursday. . . . Mr. Will<sup>m</sup> Dade that formerly lived here in a Farm of S<sup>r</sup> J<sup>n</sup> Lombes,<sup>1</sup> called on us this Morn' he looked very well, and drank a Glass of fresh Beer. . . .

Feb. 23, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with a Load of Corn—5 Coomb of Peas and four Coomb of Barley, to Mr. Bloomes. Sent a Letter by him to my Niece Pounsett. Nancy sent one to her Brother Sam. in London. Ben returned about 4 o'clock this Afternoon all safe and well. He brought a Letter for Nancy from her Aunt J<sup>n</sup> Woodforde, acquainting her that her Mother was so ill, that it was thought, that she would not live long ; that old Mr. Francis of Castle Cary was dead ; that Mr. Pounsett has had the Gout in his head. All our other Friends pretty hearty and well. Ben brought no Cash home but a Note of Bloomes. Dinner to Day, boiled Pork and a roasted Pigg. Our Maid, Betty, bad in a sore Throat, I think of the putrid kind, gave her plenty of red Wine and black-Currant Robb to keep in her Mouth. Nancy a good deal hurried or flurried with her Aunts Letter. Hopes her Mother will consider her in her Will, and behave more natural to her

<sup>1</sup> See footnote, vol. ii, p. 203.



than she ever yet did. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy, won, o. 6.

Feb. 24, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church, a large Congregation. Mr. Custance not at Church, being at Scottow.<sup>1</sup> Heard this morning that my old Butcher, Henry Baker of Lyng, died Yesterday Afternoon. Gave my old Clerk, J<sup>s</sup> Smith, who seems to be going now very fast to his last home, o. 1. o. Dinner to day, boiled Beef and a Couple [of] Ducks roasted. Betty's Throat much better to day, the Wine did her much good, had more again to day. She had red-Wine Negus going to bed also. Thank God ! am now much better than I was.

Feb. 25, Monday. . . . Mrs. Bodham with Miss E. Dade made us a long morning Visit, eat some cold rost Pig &c. They could not dine with us being engaged. Dinner to day Loin of Veal roasted &c. We were to have washed this week but Betty being bad, it was put off to another week. Betty however is finely to what she was, I continue on giving her Port Wine &c.

Feb. 28, Thursday. . . . I took a Walk this morning to Weston House, to make a Visit to my worthy Squire, but did not see him, being gone to Reepham on business. Mr. Custance sent us a fine Hare this Evening. Briton went to see his Mother this Morning she being very ill, and supposed to be near her latter end, being given over. Her Disorder a Decline. He returned home to dinner, Mother a little better. My old Butcher, Henry Baker, buried this day at Haviland, where his late Wife lays.

March 2, Saturday. . . . News-papers brought by Cary's

<sup>1</sup> See footnote, vol. ii, p. 345.

People. No Letter. At Cribbage this Evening with Nancy won o. 6. Wet with rough Winds this Evening. It was mentioned on the Papers to day that the French talked of bringing the poor Queen of France to a trial, if they do, I am afraid that she will meet with the same cruel Fate, as the King.<sup>1</sup>

March 3, Sunday. . . . We were very much in the last night alarmed by the Wind being exceeding high all the Night and Morning and continued all Day quite rough. A Strong North Westerly Wind without Rain. We had little or no Sleep all the Night. About 3. this morning it was uncommonly high indeed. It blowed off many Tiles from the old part of the House, some Roof Tiles and blowed out part of the back-House Chamber Window, but thank God! rec<sup>d</sup> no other Damage. I read Prayers and Preached this Morning at Weston Church. Mr. Custance at Church, as was also the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Maynard of Attlebridge who sat in Mr. Howletts Seat with them. Mr. Custance informed me that he had many Tiles displaced by the high Wind in the Night and many Trees blown down by it. Dinner to day boiled Beef and a Suet-Pudding. Gave my poor old Clerk James Smith who daily gets weaker and weaker 1. o.

March 5, Tuesday. . . . I drove Nancy over to Witchingham to Mr. Jeans this morning in my Curricke being fine Weather and spent an Hour with Mrs. Jeans and her Cousin, a Miss Mist out of the West Country and returned home to dinner by 3 o'clock. Miss Mist is about 17. very delicate and pleasing. Dinner to day hashed Mutton and Pudding &c. Mr. Jeans we did

<sup>1</sup> Marie Antoinette was not, in fact, put on her trial till October of this year, when, as Parson Woodforde anticipates, her fate was as cruel as the King's.

not see being gone to Norwich, but we heard by Mrs. Jeans that he was poorly.<sup>1</sup>

March 9, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton to Norwich this morning on Rodney after News &c. He returned about 5. this Aft. No Letters at all. No news I hope is good. At Cards this Evening with Nancy, nothing lost. Poor Mrs. Micklethwaite, late of Hungate Lodge died last Tuesday of a Decline, hope she is happy.

March 10, Sunday. . . . Very cold rough Easterly Winds this Morning. I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston-Church. A pretty full Congregation. Mr. Custance not at Church being not returned from S<sup>r</sup> Edmund Bacons at Raveningham. Dinner to day Knuckle of Veal boiled and Pork &c. I found the Wind exceeding cold walking to Church. Gave my poor old Clerk J<sup>s</sup> Smith, very weak, 1. o.

Mar. 13, Wednesday. . . . Brewed a Barrel of Table-Beer to day. Gave my new Boy Tim Tooley this Morn' 1. o. Gave to two Boys of Harry Case, my Thresher, 1. o. The Weather quite altered, mild, calm and pleasant.

Mar. 16, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with 10 Coomb of Wheat to Mr. Bloomc. My Mare Phyllis having cut one of her hind Feet was kept at home, and we borrowed a Horse of Case. Ben returned between 4. and 5. this Afternoon all well. Wheat sold at 23<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup> per Coomb. I did not receive any Cash but a Note of its delivery. Dinner to day Neck of Mutton roasted &c. The Papers give an

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Jeans was Rector of St. John's, Maddermarket, Norwich, having been instituted to that church as well as to his Witchingham churches St. Mary and St. Faiths on April 18, 1786. (See *List of Norfolk Benefices* prepared by Dawson Turner and published by C. Muskett, Norwich, 1847, also my footnote to vol. ii, p. 240.)

Account of the French being terribly beat by the Austrians and Germans and Dutch several thousands of them killed and taken. Mr. Pitt, in opening the Budget for this Year, was more than usually resplendent and good.<sup>1</sup>

Mar. 22, Friday. . . . Got up this morning with a comical kind of a sore throat, not much pain, had something of it Yesterday, rather worse to day—made use of Port Wine Yesterday pretty freely, and some black Currant Rob. Sent poor Frank Clarke, 1. o. Dinner to day Leg of Mutton roasted &c. Mr. Custance was so kind as to drink Tea and Coffee with us this Afternoon, and stayed till near nine in the Evening, he sets off for Bath soon. Whilst Mr. Custance was here, was seized with a violent pain in the small of my back, which continued the whole Evening, could not move from my Chair without great pain. To a poor travelling Woman going into Kent from Yorkshire gave to her to help her on 1. o.

Mar. 24, Sunday. . . . Thank God was something better to day, but still very poorly in the Morn', better in the Afternoon. Very cold, very wet and strong E. Winds all day. I read Prayers and Preached this Afternoon at Weston-Church, but a small Congrega-

<sup>1</sup> Pitt opened his Budget on March 11. He imposed no new taxation, but proposed to meet the main cost of the war by raising a loan of £2,900,000. He said 'even if the struggle in which we are engaged should last beyond the present year, we shall be able to carry it on during the next, without any additional burden'. He was thus optimistic, but he said also: 'This is a war in which, not merely adopting empty professions, but speaking the language of our hearts, and fulfilling the impressions of our duty, we are ready to sacrifice our lives and fortunes for the safety of the country, the security of Europe, and in the cause of justice, humanity, and religion. . . . In such a cause as that in which we are now engaged, I trust that our exertions will terminate only with our lives.' Pitt's *Speeches*, vol. ii, pp. 132-43.

tion. Very dirty, cold and wet Walk I had to Church and back. Rec<sup>d</sup> for publishing Banns of Marriage, 2. 6. Gave to my old Clerk J<sup>s</sup> Smith, very bad, 1. 0. Dinner to day a boiled Pike and a Hare roasted. I drank no Port Wine all day long, drank more than usual thursday last on Acc<sup>t</sup> of a sore Throat.

March 25, Monday. . . . Did not sleep very well last night, having a pain in my right great Toe, also some little of the Cramp. When I got up this morning found my great Toe swelled but not much pain with it. My Back thank God ! a good deal better than it was. Very piercing cold E. Winds but no Rain, very cold and very trying to many Constitutions that are weak. Dinner to day, Tripe boiled and hashed Turkey. Took a small dose of Rhubarb going to bed.

Mar. 26, Tuesday. . . . Had a very restless night last Night very little Sleep very nervous all night and sweated much. Thank God however got up this morning purely free from Pain and in good Spirits. Mr. Custance went off for Bath this Morning. Nancy sent a Letter to Mrs. Custance by the Squire. Hope that he might have a good and safe Journey. Dinner to day, boiled Veal and Pork and hashed Hare. Briton went to see his Mother, being almost gone.

Mar. 28, Thursday. . . . At Cary's Shop for Tobacco and Snuff, pd. 1. 6. Poor old Mr. Cary very bad in a kind of flux. . . .

Mar. 29, Friday. . . . Very sharp Frost last night, Pond froze all over and thick. This being Good-Friday I walked to Church and Nancy with me being dry Weather and there read Prayers. No Sermon. I churched Brigg's Wife this Morn' at Church returned her my fee, being labouring Folks. Very small Congregation, Peachman, Howlett and Andrews the only farmers at



Church. Dinner to day at four. Pancakes and Fritters &c.

March 30, Saturday. . . . Very sharp Frost this morning early. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted &c. Billy Bidewells Folks brought our Newspapers. No Letters from any part. The French (by the Papers) have been terribly beaten by the Austrians and Prussians in a late general Battle by Land. 7000 of the French at least killed and taken Prisoners.<sup>1</sup>

Mar. 31, Sunday, Easter-Day. . . . I read Prayers and administered the H. Sacrament this morning at Weston-Church, being Easter Day. Nancy was at Church and at the Sacrament. I gave for an Offering at the Altar, 2. 6. There were about twenty three Communicants. Immediately after Service I buried an Infant by name Honor, of Dinah Bushnells Jun<sup>r</sup>. Before I got out of Church this morning, heard that one of the Widow's Cottages on Greensgate, where poor old John Peachman and his Wife lived, was burnt to the Ground whilst we were at Church. The poor Woman was at Church, and her Husband gone to Lyng. It almost distracted the poor Woman, having lost almost all that she had. The House was burnt down to the ground in about an Hour. Poor John Heavers's House caught fire once or twice, and if it had not been for kind assistance of Neighbours, it must have been burnt. After Dinner I took a Walk

<sup>1</sup> The French under Dumouriez were routed by the Allies at Neerwinden on March 21. France at this time was at war with nearly all Europe—Parson Woodforde omits to mention (until April 19) that she had declared war on England also on February 1. The disasters which befel the French arms during the first half of this year led to the Committee of Public Safety, to the organization of victory by conscription under Carnot, and to the Reign of Terror which began in September–October 1793 and continued till July 1794.



with my Niece to Greensgate to see the Ruins made by the fire. Nothing but the Chimney remaining of poor Peachmans House. John Heavers's little damage. We went to Mrs. Dunnells and saw the poor woman Peachman, in great distress indeed. I talked with her as well as I could to make her as easy as possible and gave her o. 5. o. The Wind being almost North, some of the burnt Thatch were blown into our Garden and some found by Nancy on the Gravel Walk. Our Maid Betty and Boy were at the Fire and assisted in carrying Water to Heavers's House. Thank God ! that the fire did not spread.

April 1<sup>st</sup>, Monday. We breakfasted, dined and spent part of the Afternoon at Weston Parsonage, and about 4. o'clock this Afternoon I drove Nancy in my little Curricule to Norwich where we supped and slept. Our Servant, Briton, walked to Norwich as two Horses could not be spared from Barley-sill.<sup>1</sup> We got to the Kings Head in the Market Place by 7 o'clock and there we drank Tea and supped, but could not get a bed by any means—The House being quite full of Company, Officers &c. But I went and got two Beds at Nosworthy's where we slept. Nancy's bed was very good and in a good Room, but mine was so bad without Curtains in a large long dark Room that I only laid down on the bed and Cloths on. Nosworthy and Wife behaved very civil indeed to us. We had a bitter cold ride indeed to Norwich. A strong Easterly Wind and in our faces all the way. Miss Bruntons Benefit to night, but we did not go. I drew up a Petition this Morning by desire of Mr. Peachman, for poor old

<sup>1</sup> Barley-sill means Barley-sowing, and I must correct my footnote to vol. iii, p. 99, accordingly. The N.E.D. derives *sill* from Middle English *sele* meaning season.

Peachman and Wife and sent it to the Heart Inn, as there was a meeting. I gave to it myself 1. 1. 0. Our Curricule and Horse at the Kings Head. Where Briton slept I know not.

April 2, Tuesday. We breakfasted, dined, supped and slept again at Norwich. I got up very early, having had but little sleep and walked about to many Shops and paid many Bills, returned to Nosworthys to breakfast and had a very excellent breakfast indeed very good Tea &c. and genteely treated. Paid the following Bills this Morning in Norwich :

To Mr. Buckle, Ironmonger 4. 13. 5.

To „ Steward, Attorney, Pension &c. 3. 2. 7½.

Quit Rents rec<sup>d</sup> for him for 2. years 6. 9. 0.

To Mrs. Brewster, for Tea &c. 4. 16. 0.

To Beales, Fishmonger 0. 7. 3.

To Manning, Brazier 1. 7. 11.

Immediately after breakfast I walked with Nancy to Mrs. Francis's in Surrey Street who behaved very politely to us, we stayed there about half an hour and then went to poor Mrs. Michlethwaite's Sale of Goods, in the same Street, at which we stayed till after 2 o'clock in the Afternoon. Many People there and things sold well. I bidded for three things, a very handsome Mohogany Side-board, a very good and large Wilton Carpet, and a Mohogany Cellaret. The two first Lots I succeeded in, but the last was carried too high a great deal. For the first, Side-board, paid 3. 6. 0. For the second, Wilton Carpet, p<sup>d</sup> 6. 0. 0. Between 2 and 3 o'clock the Auction closed for this day and we returned to the Kings-head where we had ordered our Dinner, some fish and a Loin of Mutton rosted, and there we dined. I ordered the Lots that I bought to be carried to Mrs. Francis's, gave

a Porter for carrying them from the Auction Room to Mrs. Francis's 1. 0. In the Evening we went to the Theatre and saw Inle and Yarico with Harlequins frolicks. We sat in the front Box, very poor House indeed, very few in the Boxes. Captain Laton and his Wife and their Son Charles at the Play, and they came out of another Box to join us. The Play was over before ten o'clock. For two Box Tickets p<sup>d</sup> 0. 6. 0. We returned as we went in a Coach to the Kings Head where we supped and slept.

April 3, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined on some cold Meat &c. at the Kings Head, and stayed in Town till after 4. o'clock. Went about all the Morn' shopping and paying more Bills. At Bacons, for Books &c. p<sup>d</sup> 1. 4. 0. To Forster, Taylor p<sup>d</sup> 1. 1. 4. For things at Nosworthys p<sup>d</sup> 1. 2. 10. To Mr. Bloome for Coal p<sup>d</sup> 10. 18. 0. Of Ditto, for Corn rec<sup>d</sup> 30. 7. 0. Rec<sup>d</sup> of Ditto—on balance 19. 9. 0. To Smith, Mercer p<sup>d</sup> 2. 11. 6. To Nosworthy's 3 Maids, gave 0. 3. 0. To Frank, my Barber, Xmas Gift &c. 0. 3. 0. To Rum and Water at the Swan p<sup>d</sup> and gave 0. 6. To a Pair of Garters at Crickfields, p<sup>d</sup> 1. 0. To grinding Pocket Knives and a P<sup>r</sup> of Scissors, 1. 6. Tobacco at Buckles  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb 0. 9. To my Taylors Men, gave 1. 0. At 4. o'clock this Afternoon we got into one of the Kings Head Chaises and set off for Weston Parsonage and thank God got safe and well by six o'clock this Evening to Tea. Paid at the Kings Head, Chaise included 2. 1. 8. Gave to Servants at the Kings Head, 0. 5. 0. We brought home the Carpet that I bought, and gave orders to Sudbury my Upholsterer to send home my Side-Board by 2. Men. Mr. Jeans called on us very soon after our return and he drank Tea with us. Briton returned in the Curricke to Weston.

Briton's poor Mother, died this Morn', she has been long ill and given over. Hope she is happily removed. April 4, Thursday. . . . About 2. o'clock this Afternoon two Men of Sudbury's at Norwich came with my Side-Board and a large New Mohogany Cellaret bought of Sudbury, brought on the Men's Shoulders all the way, and very safe. 'The Mens Names were Abraham Seily, and Isaac Warren. I gave them what ever they could eat and drink, and when they went away, gave them, 1. 0. to spend either on the Road or at home and sent word by them to Sudbury to pay them handsomely for their Days work. Just as we were going to set down to dinner, Dr. Thorne called on me, on my late poor Butcher's Account, as he is one of the Executors. I paid to him, due from me to Baker 9. 2. 0. I asked him to dine with us but he declined. Dinner to day, Neck of Mutton roasted &c. Poor old Mr. Cary at the Point of Death.

April 5, Friday. . . . Mr. Peachman called on me this morning to shew me what was collected already on the Petition that I drew up for poor Peachman and his Wife on the late Fire. There was collected upwards of 7. 0. 0. Rec<sup>d</sup> of my Butcher, Stouton, for Tallow, 1. 6. Called this morning at Mr. Carys, and found the old Gentleman almost at his last gasp. Totally senseless with rattlings in his Throat. Dinner to day boiled Beef and Rabbit roasted. Poor old Mr. Cary died this Afternoon.

April 6, Saturday. . . . Mrs. Bidewell brought our Newspapers and likewise a Letter from my Niece Jane Pounsett in which was a great deal about nothing at all. All Friends however pretty well, except Mr. P. who has very lately had a bad fit of the Gout. . . .

1793

April 8, Monday. . . . I walked to Church this Afternoon about 5. o'clock and buried my poor old Neighbour Thos. Cary aged 84 Years, from Church I went to the House, and by desire of some of the Family I read the old Man's Will to his Family, who very justly gave all that he died possessed of, equally between all his Children share and share alike, after all Debts and Funeral expenses p<sup>d</sup>. There are four Sons and two Daughters. Gave Briton leave Yesterday to go to the Funeral of his Mother who was buried Yesterday Afternoon. He had my consent to stay out all last Night, and about Noon to day he returned home. Justice Bulwer of Haydon he told us died Saturday. Very cold indeed all day tho' very fair and Sunshine. Very smart Frosts every Morn'. Wind still E. Dinner to day boiled Pork and greens &c.

April 11, Thursday. . . . General Dumourier the French General they say is gone over to the Prussians and Austrians. Great rejoicing at Norwich on Monday on it.<sup>1</sup>

April 14, Sunday. . . . Gave my poor old Clerk Js. Smith this Morn' 2. 6 being my Easter Gift to him, he calling at my House in the Easter Week when I was from home. Very cold Weather still prevails and Frosty Morn'.

April 15, Monday. . . . To Rob<sup>t</sup> Harrison of Lyng, losing a Cow, 2. 6. . . .

April 17, Wednesday. . . . Brewed a Barrell of common Beer. Saw a Swallow this Morn' for the first [time] this Season. Very cold all day especially in the Afternoon. It snowed all the Afternoon and Evening. The Ground quite white with Snow going to bed.

April 19, Friday, Fast-Day. . . . Morning very cold,

<sup>1</sup> General Dumouriez deserted to the Austrians on April 5.



some Snow and Rain, Wind E.N.E. This being a Day appointed to be observed as a publick Fast in these seditious times and France (the avowed Disturbers of all Peace in Europe) having declared War against us, unprovoked, I walked to Church about 11. o'clock and read Prayers provided on the occasion at Weston Church this Morning, a large Congregation attended Divine Service which I was very glad to meet on the Occasion. Pray God our Prayers may be accepted, the Hearts of all the Enemies to Peace converted, and a happy and general restoration to Peace, good Order and Government re-established to all the different Powers of Europe concerned. I found it very cold [going] to Church and back again rough N.E. Wind with Hail and Snow &c. Dinner to day rost Loin of Pork &c.

April 21, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached and christened a Child this Afternoon at Weston-Church, a pretty full Congregation. No singing this Aft. at Church. The Weston Singers talk of giving it up, which I think is behaving towards me very shabby, as I gave them a Guinea to purchase books and likewise gave them 5. Shillings at Christmas. Tho' the Sun was bright to day, the Air was cold. Gave my old Clerk Js. Smith, very weak, 1. o. Dinner to day, Neck of Pork roasted &c.

April 22, Monday. . . . Between eleven and twelve this Morning I drove Nancy over to Mr. Du Quesnes in my Curricule and we spent an Hour with him at Berries Hall and returned home to dinner. Mem. Not asked to Dinner, tho' we should not if so. We found Mr. Du Quesne tolerably well considering he has been ill lately. A Sale to day at the late old Mr. Cary's House. Tho' there was a good deal of Sun to day, yet the Wind from the E. was very cold.

1793

April 23, Tuesday. . . . I christned a Child this morning of Neighbour Richmonds by name James. Mr. and Mrs. Bodham and Mrs. Balls, own Sister to Mrs. Bodham dined and spent the Afternoon with us. They left us this Evening between six and seven. Dinner to day hashed Calfs Head, Veal Soup, part of the Surloin of Beef roasted, plumb Pudding, Gooseberry Tarts and Rasberry Puffs. Oranges only, by way of desert.

April 26, Friday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Arch-Deacon Yonge's Visitation at Reepham to day. I intended to have went and carried Miss W. to Mr. Priests, but some Rain falling in the morning made us decline going at all. Dinner to day fried Souse and cold rost Beef &c.

April 29, Monday. . . . Dinner to day Neck of Veal roasted &c. Mrs. Andrews (Stephen Andrews's Wife) who has been ill some time, and little or no Appetite was saying to Mrs. Hardy a little time ago, that she should relish she believed a bit of rost Veal from my House if sent unexpectedly, therefore I sent her a Bone of Veal to day with which she was much pleased and ate hearty of it.

April 30, Tuesday. . . . Dinner to day, baked Beef, the first we ever had, some of the Chine, it baked three Hours and then it was scarce hot through. No more baked Meat. Mrs. Girling sent us three pairs of Young Pigeons.

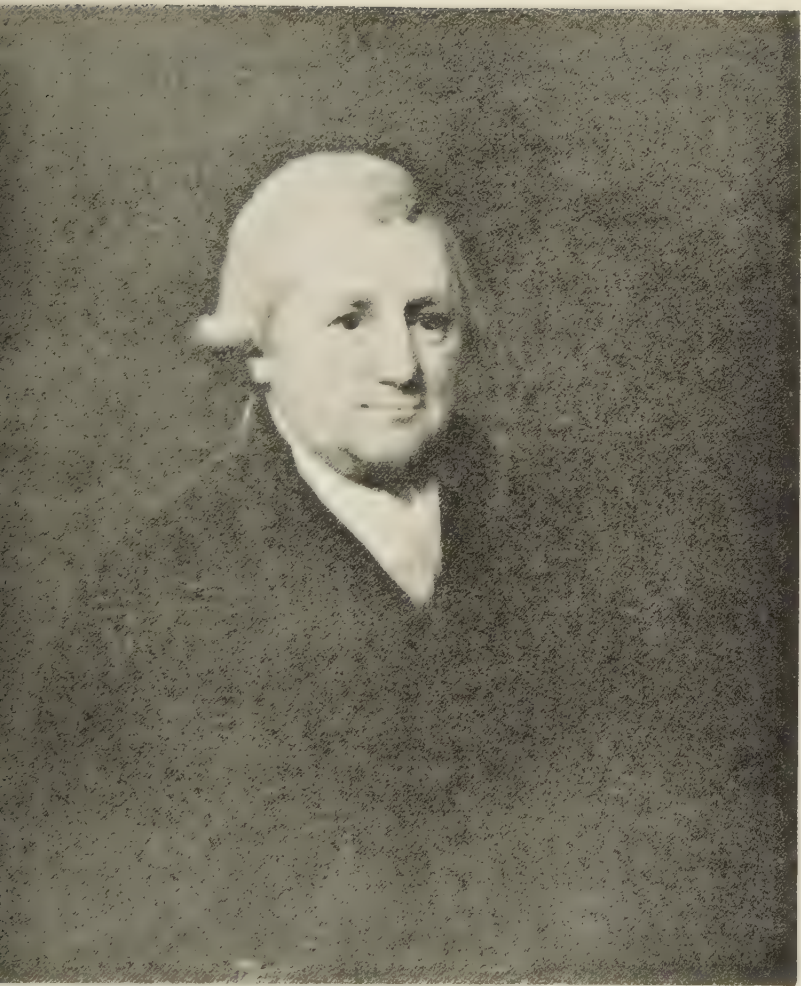
May 1, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. To James Pegg, 1 Qrs. Land Tax for Rectory and College Land, and other  $\frac{1}{2}$  Years Taxes, p<sup>d</sup> 7. 10. 3. Rec<sup>d</sup> a Note this Morning from Mr. Wright of Mattishall informing us of the Death of his Wife and requesting my Attendance at her Funeral



at Mattishall on Saturday next at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 10 in the Morning. It much surprised us as we did not hear that she had been ill at all. It was indeed very suddenly on Monday Night last after Eating a very hearty Supper and apparently very well, but going to bed, about 10 o'clock, after she got into her Chamber and sitting down on a Chair, her Maid Judith perceived her Mistress suddenly to change in her Countenance and immediately fall into a fit, on which the Maid rung the Bell and Mr. Wright was with her presently and bled her, which brought her to her Senses for a few Minutes, but in less than half an Hour after she was dead, and great was the uneasiness and distress of the Family on the Occasion and at such a time of Night. Mr. and Mrs. Bodham immediately on notice went thither, but found their Sister dead. It shocked them much. We sent over Briton this Afternoon to enquire after them on so dismal Occasion, he returned by Supper and brought word that they were all as well as could be on so melancholy an Event taking place. To a Petition this Morning of one Dionysius Brett, Cooper of Bauburgh, losing a Horse, gave o. i. o. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted &c.

May 2, Thursday. . . . Mr. Du Quesne made us a long morning Visit in his one horse Chaise, came to meet Mr. Priest of Reephham as per Note to him, and from hence Mr. Priest was to return with Mr. Du Quesne to dinner. Mr. Priest however never came and Mr. Du Quesne returned to his own home to dinner, though we asked him to dine with us more than once. He complained much of being terribly shook about in his Chaise by the badness of the roads more particularly those of his own Parish.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Du Quesne is very

<sup>1</sup> This entry in Parson Woodforde's *Diary* gives some idea of the



REV. THOMAS BODHAM (1742-96)

*Painted by Abbott*



far advanced in Years but he will not own it. He is by no means fit to drive a single Horse Chaise. His Servant Man that came on horseback with him, was afraid that he would overturn coming along, he cannot see the ruts distinctly, he will not however wear Spectacles at all. He cannot bear to appear old, but must be as young in anything as the youngest Person.

May 4, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. About 9. this morning I got into my Curricule and Briton with me, and drove over to Mr. Wrights at Mattishall to attend his late Wife to the Grave. Got there about  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 10 o'clock, and was conducted into a Parlour where the Pall-Bearers were met. They were the following Clergy, Mr. DuQuesne, Mr. Edwards of Hetherset, Mr. Smith of Mattishall, Mr. Smith of Brand, Mr. St. John Priest of Scarning, and myself. We had all black silk Hatbands, black silk Scarfs and grey Beaver Gloves. Chocolate, Cake, and red and white Wines. The Procession to Church was thus and began about 12. o'clock. The Hearse and four with the Corpse, next a full bodied mourning Coach and four with the six Pall-Bearers, then another Coach and Pair with the Husband of the deceased, then Mr. Bodhams Carriage with him and his Wife, then a Post

condition of the roads, those at least which were not either Turnpike or Mail coach roads, in the eighteenth century, and, for that matter, a good way into the nineteenth. Even Turnpike roads were apt—according to Arthur Young—to have ruts and holes of most dangerous depths. As late as 1838 only 22,000 miles of roads out of 128,000 had been turnpiked in England. The rural roads between Weston and East Tuddenham were not turnpiked, and were still maintained under the old Act of Philip and Mary, which laid the responsibility for upkeep on parish surveyors, the inhabitants being required to provide labour, carriages for haulage, &c., for four days in each year. (See Lecky, *England in the Eighteenth Century*, vol. vii, pp. 223-9; J. H. Clapham, *Economic History of Modern Britain*, p. 94, and the entry for May 21, 1783, of the *Diary*, vol. ii, pp. 75-6.)

Chaise with other People. She was interred by Mr. Smith's Curate, a young Man and whose Name is also Smith, a very Modest well disposed Man, has not been in orders above half a Year. He was much affected, but performed the Ceremony very well. After the Interment we all returned to Mr. Wrights as we went, and then Mr. Wright came and spoke to us all and thanked us, and after him Mr. and Mrs. Bodham &c. came into the Room with us, and after drinking one Glass of Wine, we all pulled off our Gowns &c. and each went for his respective home. I returned home about 4. o'clock this afternoon. I brought home Nancy a pair of white Gloves. It was the handsomest Funeral I ever attended. The Coffin covered with black Cloth was the largest I ever saw. She was a very large, fat Woman, only 48. Years of Age, buried in a large Vault in the Chancel at Mattishall. A vast concourse of People at the Funeral. Mrs. Bidewell brought our Newspapers and also a Letter from my Niece, Jane Pounsett, informing us of the Death of her Grandmother old Mrs. Pounsett. I was but indifferent to day, Spirits low and faint. Mr. DuQuesne complained a good deal also, and he looks poorly, but nevertheless can't help talking young. Dinner to day hash Mutton &c.

May 5, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached, church'd a Woman, and christned a Child this Afternoon at Weston Church. The Singers took it into their heads to sing again. Gave poor old Js. Smith my Clerk, still weaker, 1. o. . . .

May 6, Monday. . . . Walked to Church this morning about 11. o'clock and married James Moon of Marsham, and Eliz. Baker (one of John Baker's Daughters only 16. Years of age last Saturday) by Banns, recd.



only 2. 6 having recd. half a Crown before. Mr. Maynard the Clergyman of Attlebridge was at Weston Church. On my return home from Church, found Mr. and Mrs. Jeans and a Miss Mist at my House, they came to take a Family dinner with us, but we were engaged out. Had a Child of Rachael Burnhams brought to be named whilst they were here, a spurious Child, William was the name of it. Mr. Jeans went on to Mr. DuQuesnes on horse back, and Mrs. Jeans with her Daughter Mary & Miss Mist went for Hockering in their little Cart to make Mrs. Howman a morning Visit. As we were going to dine at Mr. Bodhams we went part of the way with them, so far as the Turnpike, and then we went for Mattishall, got thither about 2. o'clock and there we dined, and spent the Afternoon with Mr. & Mrs. Bodham. We had for dinner boiled Calfs Head and a Piece of rost Beef and a Yorkshire Pudding. After Coffee and Tea I got into my Curricule by myself and drove home to Weston Parsonage by 2. o'clock, leaving Nancy behind to spend a few days with Mrs. Bodham on Account of losing her Sister so lately.

May 8, Wednesday. . . . My Servant Maid, Betty Dade, returned home this Evening from visiting her Friends at Mattishall. She went Yesterday Morning, being Mattishall Gaunt.<sup>1</sup> Very little Company at the Gaunt this Year, the Weather turning out rather wet.

May 9, Thursday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Brewed a Barrel of common Beer and instead of turning it in the Evening as usual I put it into the Mesh-Tub with the Yeast, and covered it over with Bags, And to stay all Night so. My Beer of late having

<sup>1</sup> Gaunt=Jaunt, or as Parson Woodforde explains elsewhere 'alias Fair' (see vol. iii, p. 351, entry for May 15, 1792).

not been clear and fine, so that I was willing to try some other scheme, and I hope this will answer, if it does it will be much better on many Accounts, especially the trouble of turning it of a night which was rather disagreeable. All that I am afraid of, is, that the Beer will be less brisk. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted &c. Briton's Brother Joe dined with our folks in Kitchen. He brought some Yeast for us from Reepham.

May 11, Saturday. I breakfasted, supped & slept again at home. About 11. o'clock this morning I got into my little Curricule and drove over to Sparham and made my first Visit to the new Rector there, a Mr. Stoughton quite a young Man about 25,<sup>1</sup> stayed near an hour with him and his Sister, and then drove on to Mr. Jeans at Witchingham and there dined and spent the Afternoon with him, Mrs. Jeans & Miss Mist. After Tea returned home to Weston Parsonage. I like Mr. Stoughton very well, he appears to be a modest, well behaved young Man. His Sister is not handsome but agreeable. She is going to London the beginning of next Week on business. We had for Dinner to day, hashed Calfs Head and a fore Quarter of Lamb roasted & a Rhubarb Tart. Bidewell brought my News but very late at Night.

May 13, Monday. . . . About 11. this morning got into my Curricule and drove to Mr. DuQuesne's, after spending an Hour with him who is very poorly, I went on to Mattishall and dined & spent the Afternoon at Mr. Bodham's with him, Mrs. Bodham, Mr. Wright and his Niece Miss Brown, Mr. Smith the Curate of

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. James Stoughton became Rector on April 19, 1792 and seems to have been at Sparham till 1840 (*List of Norfolk Benefices*, printed by Charles Musket, Norwich, 1847).



Mattishall, and Miss Woodforde. I got to Mattishall about two o'clock.

May 16, Thursday. . . . About 11. o'clock this Morning I drove Nancy over to Mr. DuQuesne's, found him very indifferent, stayed about an Hour with him, and then we went on to Mr. Wrights at Mattishall where we dined and spent the Afternoon with Mr. Wright, his Niece a Miss Brown, Mr. Dashwood of Downham, Mr. and Mrs. Bodham, and Mr. Smith Curate of Mattishall. . . .

May 17, Friday. . . . To poor old Nat. Heavers this Morning gave, 1. 0. To the Masons, Hardy &c. at the Widows House, gave, 1. 0. To the Carpenters, Nelson &c. ditto gave, 1. 0. Dinner to day, Leg Mutton roasted &c. Where the Widows House stood that was burnt down on Easter Day, we are going to build with the materials a small Barn for the other Cottage.

May 19, Whit-Sunday. . . . This being Whit-Sunday, I read Prayers and administered the Holy Sacrament this Morning at Weston Church, gave for an Offering at the Altar, 2. 6. After the Sacrament I christened three Children, two of Billy Bidewells and one of Brigg's. My poor old Clerk (James Smith) very weak indeed, tho' moving about, he could not come to dine at my House as usual, therefore sent him his dinner. Dinner to day, Fillet of Veal roasted &c.

May 20, Monday. . . . To John Harrison, Thatcher, for thatching some part of my Barn on the SW. Side, paid him a Bill of 1. 0. 10½. Merry doings at the Heart being Whit-Monday. . . .

May 21, Tuesday. . . . To the Carpenters, Nelsons, at work at John Heavers about a little Barn that is now making, gave 0. 1. 0. The Weston Purse Club with

Colours flying and Cockades in their Hats, came to my House this morning and made me their Annual Visit. I gave them o. 10. 6.<sup>1</sup>

May 24, Friday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at home. We got up soon after six this Morning, dressed and breakfasted, and at half past seven we got into our Curricie and drove to Norwich, found the road very dusty and the Air very cold both going and coming back. We called at both the Priests, saw John Priest & Wife, his Father & Mr. Priest of Reepham. Nancy bought her a new black beaver hat with purple Cockade and band. She gave for it 1. 3. 0. She bought it of One Oxley in the Market place. I also bought a new hat of him, pd. him for it 1. 1. 0. Whilst my Niece was at Barths, Stay & Habit Maker, I walked to Bacons and paid him for Knox's Sermons lately published, one Vol. Octavo o. 6. 6. To the Widow Studwell, at the China Shop, pd. o. 8. 0 for Basons &c. To 4 Maccarel, pd. o. 1. 8. Paid Sudbury for my new Cellaret &c. 4. 4. 6. To 11. Dozen of Buttons Coat & Waistcoat, some Italian, some Clay's Paper ones, all black at Bakers pd. o. 9. 6. Sent a Letter to my Niece Jane Pounsett. Called at my Mercers, Smiths, and bespoke a Coat, Waistcoat and Breeches of him. Then went to my Taylors Forster, and told him to mak[e] a Suit of Livery for Briton. About 2. o'clock we got into a snug Room at the Wool-Pocket in St. Giles's where our Horses were, and eat some very nice pickled Salmon which we enjoyed, had a Pint of Port Wine besides Porter, pd. for it o. 3. 6. Nancy then went to try on a new Habit & Stays at Barths, at 5. o'clock called for her, walked with her to [where] St. Bennets Gates lately stood, and at half

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note on Friendly Societies, p. 192, vol. iii.

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past 5. got into our Curricie and drove back to Weston Parsonage, where we got thank God safe and well at half past 7. o'clock. It was very cold on our return, glad of our great Coats. Mr. DuQuesne & Mr. Stoughton called at my House to day whilst we were out.

May 26, Sunday. . . . My poor old Clerk Js. Smith very ill, not at Church.

May 28, Tuesday. . . . Sent my poor old Clerk, Js. Smith some Mutton & I. o.

May 29, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Sent Briton after breakfast with Notes of Invitation to dinner on Wednesday next, to Mr. and Mrs. Bodham Mr. Wright &c. Briton returned home to dinner with Notes from Mrs. Bodham & Mr. Wright, that they could not wait on us, the former Note from Mrs. Bodham informed us that Mr. Bodham was taken very suddenly ill in the night of Monday last, vomited much blood and was still very dangerously ill. We are much afraid that he is not long for this Life. Mr. Wright &c. sent word that he has Company next Week. I ordered Briton to call at Mr. DuQuesnes to enquire after him, and he brought us word that he was very poorly indeed, much worse than he has been. We have at present but a bad look on,<sup>1</sup> our best Friends being both in a very dangerous State. Dinner to day, hash Mutton & Pudding &c.

May 31, Friday. . . . Mr. Sudbury from Norwich, my Upholsterer called on me this morning concerning some dining Tables. He drank a Glass of White Wine and eat a small Cake or two. He went from my House to Weston House to look at their furniture. Mr. Sudbury brought us a Packet of Letters and Notes. One Letter for Nancy from her Aunt Woodforde another for me

<sup>1</sup> Parson Woodforde's phrase is definitely 'look on' not 'look out'.

from my Niece Pounsett, a printed Letter for me also from the Bishop of Norwich, a Note for Mr. Custance from the Mayor elect and another Note for us of Invitation from the Mayor elect of Norwich, paid in all 0. 2. 2. Mr. Pounsett, my Sister and Niece are at Bath and got into Lodgings in the Grove. They desire us to call upon them & return to Cole all together. The Bath I hope will do Mr. Pounsett good. The Bishops Letter was to desire me to make a gathering in my Parish for the French Refugee Clergy.<sup>1</sup> Recd. for Butter at "8½ 0. 1. 9¼. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted &c.

June 1, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this Morning to Norwich in my little old Cart after News and many other things. Nancy sent a Letter to Mrs. Custance at Bath. Dinner to day boiled Leg of Pork & Peas Pudding. Briton returned home about 5. o'clock in the Afternoon. He brought home a new Cloth riding Habit for Nancy, a new Suit of black Cloaths for me, and a new Livery and Frock for himself.

June 4, Tuesday. . . . Sent Ben early to Norwich this morning after fish. Mr. DuQuesne, Mr. and Mrs. Jeans, and with them a Miss Mist about 16. Years, and Mr. Stoughton Rector of Sparham, dined & spent the Afternoon with us. We had for Dinner fried Soals, Ham & 3 boiled Chicken, a Surloin of Beef roasted, Gooseberry Tarts &c. Mrs. Jeans very affected, & talked very consequential. Mr. DuQuesne looked very poorly, complained much, eat however pretty tolerably and was jocose. Whist played before and after Tea. I won at Whist with DuQuesne, Jeans & Stoughton 2<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>. The Company did not leave us till half past 8.

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. iii, pp. 380-1.

June 7, Friday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home.

Miss Woodforde and Betty with her, drove to Norwich early this morning and returned home tho' late to dinner. Briton rode Rodney to attend on them. They did not return home till after 4. o'clock this Af. About 2. o'clock, Mr. and Mrs. Bodham, and Mr. Wright, came to Weston Parsonage, and they dined and spent the Afternoon with us. Two Servants also with them. I was rather put to my trumps to make out a dinner and that not till half past three o'clock, waiting in hopes of Nancy's return from Norwich with fish. We gave them the best dinner we could contrive in so short a time, which was some hash Mutton and a Suet Pudding, Neck of Mutton roasted, cold roast Beef, and Gooseberry Tarts. Just as we had dined before the things were taken away, came Nancy with some Soals and two small Crabs, the latter of wch. we had to conclude our dinner. Our Company were well pleased with their fare. They left us between 7. and 8. this Evening.

June 10, Monday. . . . Sent to my poor old Clerk, still very weak o. 1. o. . . .

June 11, Tuesday. . . . The Barn at John Heavers finished this Evening.

June 12, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. Got up this Morn soon after 6. o'clock, shaved &c. and at 7. drove to Norwich & Briton went with me in my Curricule, got there by nine and stayed in town till 2. in the Afternoon and then returned home to dinner by four o'clock or a little after. Paid my Fishmonger, Mrs. Beals for fish o. 7. 6. Paid for 2. Packing Cords, 1/0 each o. 2. o. Saw a Regiment of Soldiers march thro' the City to Mousehold-Heath to do their Exercise. Went & saw the Barracks that



are building for Soldiers, wch. when finished will make a grand appearance. To some refreshment at Norwich, pd. o. 5. We were caught in the Rain about 3. Miles from Norwich as we went this Morn : and got almost we[t] thro'. Many handbills distributed about Norwich to day stirring the People to riotous proceedings.<sup>1</sup> Gave Harry Dunnell this Evening, having very lately lost a Cow o. 5. o. Great grumbling among the poor at Norwich. Trade being very dull. Dinner to day boiled Beef.

June 15, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early to Norwich with a large Trunk Portmanteau to be sent into Somerset for us filled with some of our Cloaths &c. for our intended Tour. Dinner to day, Beef Stakes, Calfs Gin boiled &c. Ben brought back  $\frac{3}{4}$  Chaldron of Coal from Blooms likewise two Casks of Liquor of 2 Gallons and  $\frac{1}{2}$  each from Wymers, Liquor Merchant at Norwich. I ordered one of Rum and one of Geneva, but they both turned out to be Geneva—a great disappointment to me.

June 17, Monday. . . . The North Aile of Weston Church begun repairing. Dinner to day Leg of Mutton roasted &c. To Frank Clarke, still very helpless gave 2. o. To Beales Wife, for doing for my old Clerk gave 1. o.

June 20, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. About or rather before 8. o'clock this Morning I got into my Curricule and drove to Mr. DuQuesnes, and there breakfasted with him on some Cocoa, found him better than I expected, stayed with him about an Hour and then drove to Norwich, got thither between 11. and 12. and there stayed till 2. o'clock and then returned home to Weston to a late dinner and thank

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note vol. iii, pp. 393-4, for some account of the repercussions of the French Revolution.



God safe and well. Went by Easton and returned by Cossey, some Rain but mostly dry and very cold indeed for the time of the Year. Whilst at Norwich called at Barths, Nancy's Stay & Habit Maker, and paid his Wife Bill of 7. 4. 0. At Wymers, Liquor Merchant for 5. Gllns. Gin 2. 19. 0. For 2. inside Places in the Bury Coach to London and 1. outside for Monday June the 24, at 9. in the Evening, the former at 25<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup> each the latter 14<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, paid Merchant Baker near the Angel for the whole fare to Town the Sum of 3. 4. 0. At Kerrison Bank, left the Money collected for the Refugee Clergy at Weston 2. 12. 0.<sup>1</sup> Carried a green Goose well fattened to Norwich and sent Briton with it to Nosworthys as a token of their Civilities to us some time back at Norwich. Bespoke a Chaise at the Kings Head to be at my House by 10. o'clock Monday Morning next. Called at Morphews to desire him to give my Compts. to our Arch-Deacon, Younge, and sorry that I cannot be at home when he visits the Churches in July. Put a Letter into the Post Office by desire of Mr. DuQuesne from him to Mrs. Townshend, Stanhope Street, May-Fair, London. For refreshment at Norwich pd. 0. 0. 5. Dinner to day hash Mutton, Giblet Soup and a nice fat green Goose with Gooseberry Sauce. To old George Warton this Evening, gave 0. 1. 0.

June 21, Friday. . . . Took a ride this Morning in my little Curricule, to Mr. Jeans, stayed about an hour with Mr. and Mrs. Jeans & Miss Mist, & returned home to dinner. Mr. DuQuesne dined & spent the Afternoon and part of the Evening till after 9. at Night with us. He was pretty well before and after Dinner some time but in the Evening complained a good deal.

<sup>1</sup> See entry for May 31 and foot-note.

Dinner to day, Giblet Soup, hash Mutton, mince-Veal, a neck of Mutton roasted & a batter pudding. Nancy did not go with me to Witchingham having a Cold. This Afternoon Gould Junr. a Jockey who lives at Hockering called at my House, and I made an exchange of Horses with him, I let him have my grey Horse, Rodney, for a Bay Horse of his near the same Age and Height. I gave him to boot 3. 3. 0. He asked twenty Guineas for his Horse, and I valued mine at seventeen Guineas. Gave the Jockey's Man, as customary 0. 1. 0. I like my new Horse very well, he is so gentle and goes in my Curricule so well. Nancy likes him mightily, so good tempered.

June 23, Sunday. . . . Mr. Girling made us a long morning visit as we set out to Morrow for Bath where Mr. & Mrs. Custance are. No Service at Church to day, part of the Church being at present unroofed & undergoing repairs. I buried poor John Grant this Afternoon aged 62. Yrs. Dinner to day Loin of Veal roasted &c. It being a fine Afternoon we took a walk to Weston House and saw it all over. Mrs. Mann & Son and with them a Mrs. Farrers we met at Weston House. We did not return home till half past 8. o'clock.

June 24, Monday. We breakfasted, and spent the morning at Weston Parsonage, after breakfast we were very busy in packing up things in our Trunks for our intended Journey into the West of England as We set off to day. About 2. o'clock this afternoon we left Weston, got into one of the Kings Head Chaises from Norwich, and went for Norwich, got thither about 4. and there dined & spent the Afternoon at the Kings Head. Briton went with us in my little old Cart. Ben went with him to have back the Cart to Weston. At 9. o'clock this Evening we got into the Angel Post

Coach for London. Briton rode on the Top of the Coach. Paid for our Dinners, Chaise &c. at the Kings Head 1. 0. 5. To Chaise Driver & Servants at Norwich gave 0. 4. 0. For extra Luggage, paid about 0. 9. 0.

June 25, Tuesday. After travelling all Night and till 2. o'clock this Afternoon, we got safe & well (thanks to Almighty God) to London, to the Angel Inn at the back of St. Clements near the Strand, where we dined, supped & slept. To extraordinaries in the Night, Coachman &c. pd. 0. 5. 0. Nancy & self bore our Journey last Night very well. Nancys Brother Saml. supped and spent the Even' with us at the Angel Inn, he looks thin & pale, but was in good Spirits.

June 26, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined, supped & slept at the Angel Inn. Soon after breakfast Mr. Saml. Woodforde joined us and being fine Weather we all walked to Leicester Fields, and there saw the Panorama, a fine deception in painting of the British & Russian Fleets at Spithead in the Year        It was well worth seeing indeed, only one Shilling apiece, I pd. 0. 3. 0. We stayed about an Hour there, Company continually going to see it. We called at Samuel's Lodgings in Tavistock Row, Covent Garden, and saw his Paintings—very good Picture of Caractacus &c.<sup>1</sup> At Reeves Hosiery Warehouse in the Strand early this Morning for a pair of Boot Stockings, pd. 0. 4. 6. For a brown travelling worsted Cap, pd. 0. 4. 0. For a Cotton & worsted shaving Cap, pd. 0. 2. 3. For a Silk Purse at the same Shop, pd. 0. 2. 0. For a Caracature of Charles Fox, pd. 0. 2. 0. Mr. Saml. Woodforde dined, supped and spent the Evening with us at the Angel. After

<sup>1</sup> For Samuel Woodforde, R.A., see foot-note vol. i, p. 208, also entry for July 17, 1782, vol. ii, pp. 36-7.

Coffee & Tea this Evening we walked to the Theatre in the Haymarket and there saw performed a Comedy called *Ways and Means*, with the Entertainment of Peeping Tom of Coventry, for 3 Tickets pd. o. 9. o. We sat in the Pit and had very good places. It was near 11 o'clock before it was all over.

June 27, Thursday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at the Angel. My Nephew Saml. breakfasted, dined, supped and spent the Evening with us at the Angel Inn. I got up very early this morning and walked into the City to Lombard-Street to Gurney's<sup>1</sup> banking Shop, to change some Norwich Notes, but after staying there some time, was obliged to come away without doing it, their not doing any business till such an Hour. I then went and saw the Mansion House, gave o. 1. o. After breakfast We walked into the City and called on Mrs. Gudgeon in Newgate Street. I left my Niece and her Brother at Mr. Gudgeons whilst I went again to Gurneys banking Office and there changed two ten pound Notes for ready Cash—very bluff Folks. I returned from thence to Mr. Gudgeons and they behaved extremely civil & friendly to us all. After regaling ourselves with Chocolate &c. we then walked to the Shakespear Gallery filled with beautiful Paintings.<sup>2</sup> We afterwards went to the Poets Gallery filled also with fine Pictures. There was a Picture of Samls. in one of the Galleries. For seeing the Galleries and for Catalogues, pd. o. 8. o. To 2. inside Places in the Bath Post Coach for to Morrow Morn' at 30<sup>s</sup>/o<sup>d</sup> each, 1. Outside 16<sup>s</sup>/o<sup>d</sup>, pd. 3. 16. o. For fishing Hooks &

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. iii, p. 140.

<sup>2</sup> The Shakespeare Gallery in Pall Mall was founded by Alderman John Boydell (1719–1804), the Engraver and Patron of Art. Boydell, owing to financial embarrassments caused by the war, was compelled to dispose of his collection by lottery in 1804.

Lines &c. near Temple Bar pd. 9. 0. In the Afternoon we were busy in packing up our things as we go so early to Morrow Morning for Bath. I also paid my Bill at the Angel this Evening which including Servants & Beds, amounted to 3. 18. 6. To Barber and Servants at the Inn, gave abt. 13. 0.

June 28, Friday. We got up about 4 o'clock this morning and at 5 got into the Bath Coach from the Angel and set off for Bath. Briton on the top of the Coach. The Coach carries only 4 inside Passengers. We had a very fat Woman with a Dog and many band boxes, which much incommoded us, and also a poor sickly good kind of a Man that went with us. We breakfasted at Maidenhead on Coffee & Tea. For Strawberries at Maidenhead pd. 0. 1. 0. For our breakfasts pd. 0. 2. 0. We were very near meeting with an Accident in Reading, passing a Waggon, but thank God we got by safe and well. It was owing to the Coachman. As we went out of Reading we met a Regiment of Soldiers, some Militia going into Reading. At Reading there were two young Gentlemen by name Jolliffe that got up on the top of the Coach, being going home from School for the Vacation. I remembered their Father at Winchester School. We dined at the Pelican Inn, Speanham Land. The young Gentlemen dined with us, I franked them. Their Father lives about 10 Miles beyond Bath. For our Dinners, Coachman &c. pd. abt. 14. 0. Paid at Speenham Land for extra Luggage abt. 4. 0. About 10 o'clock this Evening, thank God, we got safe and well to Bath, to the White Hart Inn, where we supped & slept—a very noble Inn. Found our Friends Mr. and Mrs. Pounsett & Daughter at Bath, at Lodgings in the Orange-Grove, at one Roubelles, all tolerably well. Mr. Pounsett better for



being at Bath. They were very glad to see us. For Extraordinaries on the road to day pd. abt. 2. 6. As soon as the young Jolliffes got to Bath, they hired a Chaise immediately & set off for home. The fat Lady that came with us, supped with us. It was rather late before we got to bed. We were very happy to find that our friends were not gone from Bath. We are to have Lodgings to Morrow in the same house with them.

June 29, Saturday. We breakfasted at the Hart and after breakfast paid at the Inn for our Suppers last Night &c. o. 9. 6. To Servants at the Inn, Barber included o. 5. 0. We then ordered our Trunks to Mr. Roubelle's in the Orange Grove where our Friends were and then we dined, supped & slept. Mr. Custance & two eldest Sons called on us about Noon & stayed  $\frac{1}{2}$  an Hour with us. After Nancy had dressed herself I walked with her to No. 1. Portland-Place and paid our respects to Mrs. Custance and the rest of her Family. We found Mrs. Custance very well indeed and all her eight Children. They were very glad to see us and desired us to dine with them to Morrow.

June 30, Sunday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at Roubelles. We dined & spent the Afternoon at Portland Place with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, & Family. Miss Custance Sister to Mr. Custance also dined with us. My Niece Jane Pounsett went also with us to Portland Place. We spent a very agreeable Day with Mr & Mrs. Custance &c. We had a very handsome Dinner.

July 1st, Monday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at Roubelle's. After we breakfasted Mr. and Mrs. Custance & some of their Children with them made us a morning Visit at Roubelles. Soon after they left us I



walked about Bath with my Sister Pounsett & Daughter and Nancy a shopping. At Perrival's Shop in Milsom Street for three Pieces of Muslin ten Yards each Piece and one Yard & half wide—very great bargain, I paid 3. 15. 0 which was only twenty five Shillings apiece. I gave one Piece to my Sister Pounsett, another to my Niece Pounsett and the other Nancy had.

July 2, Tuesday. We breakfasted at Roubelles, supped & slept there again. Nancy & self dined & spent the Afternoon at Portland-Place with Mr. & Mrs. Custance and Family and a Miss Welcher Governess to the young Ladies. For a Small box-trunk this morning of one Maxfield on the borough walls paid 0. 10. 6. To a Mr. Jones, Mercer in the Abbey Church Yard for two Yrds. and  $\frac{3}{4}$ , Superfine black thin Cloth at 19<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, 2. 2. 9. To ditto, for 1 Yrd.  $\frac{3}{4}$  rich florentine at 12<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, 1. 1. 0. At Perrivals Shop for another Piece of Muslin ten Yards and 1 Yrd.  $\frac{1}{2}$  wide, which I intend to give Sister White, 1. 5. 0.

July 3, Wednesday. We breakfasted at Roubelles and spent the Morning at Bath. About 1. o'clock we all set off from Bath in two Post-Chaises for Cole. Myself and 2. Nieces in the first Chaise. Mr. Pounsett & Sister in another. Gave to Servants at Bath, Barber &c. included 3. 6. We got to Frome about 3. o'clock to the George Inn where we dined. Our Chaise got to Frome very near an hour before Mr. Pounsetts. Market Day at Frome. For the Bath Chaise and Driver pd. and gave 16. 0. For our Dinners &c. at Frome, I paid abt. 13. 6. We all arrived safe and well to Cole (thanks to God) about 9. o'clock this Evening, very little fatigued, and then we supped & slept at the old House. For the Frome Chaise to Cole & Driver,

pd. abt. 15. o. To Horses from Bath to Cole for Briton pd. abt. 9. o. Nancy's Brother Willm. & Wife we found at Mr. Pounsetts. My Brother John we also saw this Evening at Cole.

July 8, Monday. We supped and slept again at Cole. At 7. o'clock this morning I took a Walk with Nancy to Mrs. R. Clarkes at C. Cary, and there breakfasted, dined, & spent the Afternoon, with her, my Brother & Wife. Between breakfast & dinner I took a Walk to Gallhampton to Willm. Woodfordes, stayed about an hour & half with him & Wife & returned to Cary to dinner. Willm. & Wife behaved very friendly and kind. Willm. has made a very pretty place of his little Cottage. Intensely hot indeed all day, sweated amazingly. Dinner to day, Peas & Bacon, boiled Beef, a Couple of Ducks roasted, and a Gooseberry Pye. We returned to Cole in the Evening about 9. as we went.

July 9, Tuesday. . . . To one Garland, Shoemaker at Bruton, For a pair of new Shoes for fishing, lined with flannell, paid him this Afternoon, the exorbitant demand of o. 9. o. They were badly made besides.

July 10, Wednesday. . . . Sent a Letter this Morning to my Maid Betty at Weston. Gave Willm. Coleman an old Servt. of mine o. 1. o. Dinner to day Peas & Pork, fried Beef & Cabbage &c. Very hot indeed all day especially towards night. We have not had for many Years such a continuation of warm Weather as of late. Blessed be God.

July 13, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at Cole. Very hot still again to day. Mr. Pounsett finished this Evening the whole of his Hay-making, all in 10. Days, his own and that of his late Mothers. My Brother dined & spent the Afternoon, part of it with us, he then went into Bruton, and just called on his

return home, but did not stay. Dan Phelps, Taylor, of Castle-Cary brought me home this Evening a new Coat & Waistcoat. Paid him for making the same and for some of the materials, Fustian &c. o. 17. o which upon the whole I think very reasonable. Went out a fishing about Noon, caught nothing. Mr. & Mrs. Gudgeon from London we heard to day were at Shepton Mallett, and intend spending a few Days at Ansford and Castle-Cary. Dinner to day boiled Beef, blade-bone of Pork roasted &c.

July 14, Sunday. . . . William Woodforde & Wife supped & spent the Evening with us. They sport away in their second hand flashy one Horse-Chaise with plated furniture. . . .

July 16, Tuesday. We supped & slept again at Cole. Very hot to day. About 8. o'clock this morning, I walked with Nancy and my Niece Jane Pounsett to Castle-Cary, and there breakfasted at Mrs. R. Clarkes with her, my Brother & Wife, Mr. and Mrs. Gudgeon from London, Mr. Gudgeons Father from Town and old Mr. Pope of Shepton-Mallett, Father to Mrs. Gudgeon. We had a very genteel breakfast indeed, Coffee & Tea, bread & Butter, cold Tongue &c. After breakfast I walked with Nancy & Jenny Pounsett to different houses in Castle-Cary, shopping &c. At Noncullus's Shop for 2. Pair of brown thread Stockings to wear under boots &c. pd. o. 6. o. At Fields at the Angel at Cary for some Negus pd. o. 1. o. We dined & spent the Afternoon at Sister Whites at Ansford with her, her Son Robert, Mr. Fooks Attorney at Shepton-Mallett, Sister Pounsett, and a Master Charles Webster. We had for dinner Ham & Chicken, boiled Whiting, Beans & Peas, a Couple of Ducks roasted and a Currant Pye, with a hearty welcome.

Called on my old Uncle Mr. Thos. Woodforde & his wife, also on their Son Mr. Frank & Family, they all behaved very genteelly. My Uncle very hearty, 87 Years of Age, walked with us from his own house to the Parsonage without a Stick. My Aunt is 84, & pretty hearty considering. Sister Pounsett was carried to Ansford in Robt. Whites Chaise but she walked back with us, we did not get to Cole till near 10. o'clock. We were all fatigued but Nancy bore it the best of all. Very hot to day. Gave Sister [White's] Servants, Willm. Coleman & Maid 0. 2. 0. Gave Mr. Robt. Whites Children Sophia & Robt. 0. 2. 0. Saw my old running Footman J<sup>n</sup> Coles, gave him 1. 0. Lord Wilmoughby de Broke & Lady came to Mr. Frank Woodfordes this Evening.

July 18, Thursday. . . . Sent Briton early this morning to enquire after my Brothers Wife. She is much better. Mr. Pounsett paid into my hands this morning the Sum of thirty five Pounds 10. Shillings 35. 10. 0 a 25.£ bank Note and ten Guineas in Cash. Dinner to day fryed Roach and Dace and a Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c. Mr. Pounsett poorly, complained much of the Gout or Rheumatism flying about his Constitution.

July 20, Saturday. . . . Part of the Montgomeryshire Militia passed thro' Cole early this morning on their way to Exeter. Mr. Pounsett did not get up till late, was very bad and obliged to be carried down Stairs, complained very much after he was downstairs. Scarce any Appetite. Dinner to day Beans & Bacon, Souce. & Pigeon Pudding. Walked out a fishing this Aft : caught only one Trout. A Storm of Rain made me very wet whilst I was out.

July 21, Sunday. . . . Sister Pounsett & Daughter with Nancy walked to Pitcomb Church this morning. Mr.

Roberts preached there. Miss Woodforde & Miss Pounsett exhibited two new purple Veils at Church this morning, it being fine Weather. I did not go with them having a cold. Dinner to day Loin of Veal roasted, Peas & Pork &c. Mr. Dalton Senr. smoked a Pipe with us at Cole in the Evening. As I walked towards Mr. Daltons on his return home, we met his Son John Dalton going towards Bruton for a Walk. I joined him and left his Father to go home by himself. When we got to Bruton Turnpike Gate we heard the Montgomeryshire Militia Band, they were playing in the Grove of John Goldsboroughs, we went to them and stayed till near 10. o'clock at Night. There was a Collection made for the Men. We each gave 0. 2. 6. Poor Mr. Pounsett worse if anything than Yesterday. My Sister Pounsett vexes him having so little patience. Mr. Pounsett so very bad to day as to deprive him of the use of both hands and both feet, obliged to be fed and treated in all respects, as an infant.

July 23, Tuesday. . . . About 2. o'clock I walked over to C. Cary to Mrs. R. Clarkes and there dined & spent the Afternoon with Mrs. R. Clarke my Brother and Wife, a Mr. Blunddell (of Devonshire whose Sister is a Tenant to my Brother) Mr. Frank Woodforde and Wife, and their eldest Daughter Fanny Woodforde. Nancy was invited and pressed much to go, but was afraid of the Rain. We had a very good dinner, boiled Maccarel, green Peas Soup, Leg of Mutton boiled & Capers Sauce, Ham boiled & fricaseed Chicken, Beans & Peas, a Couple of Ducks roasted, Tarts & Custards. I returned to Cole as I went about 9. o'clock in the Evening after spending a very agreeable Day at Mrs. R. Clarkes. Mr. Pounsett very indifferent to day, complained much of a pain in his head. Appetite also bad.



July 25, Thursday. . . . Poor Mr. P. kept his bed the whole day being very bad indeed. Went out a fishing this morning with a Net and three Men in the Water, down the River. Mr. John Dalton was with us till 12. o'clock. We fished till near 2. o'clock, caught about 10. brace of middling Trout & 4. brace of Dace. Mr. John Dalton and both his Sisters, with an old Maiden Lady of Salisbury by name Shirley, dined & spent the Afternoon with us. . . .

July 30, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Pounsett near the same. Pain in my Ear brave. About Noon took a walk by myself to Mrs. R. Clarkes at C. Cary, stayed about half an hour with them, and then we all walked to Ansford Parsonage & dined & spent the Aft: with Mr. Frank Woodforde, Wife & Fanny. My Brother & Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke & Nancy Woodforde and self were all the Company besides themselves. We had for dinner a Couple of boiled Rabbits, a fine round of Beef but stale in some parts, Peas Soup, hashed Calfs head, a Goose roasted, Tarts & blamange. Desert, Cherries, Rasberries, Gooseberries & Currants. After Tea this Aft: for we had no Coffee, I walked back to Cole by myself, over Coomb & down Nap-hollow, got home about 9. o'clock, found a Letter for me at Cole brought by Robin Polley from Bruton, from my Maid Betty Dade at Weston Parsonage. My poor old Clerk Js. Smith she writes me word is dead, likewise old John Spinks and Harry Dunnell the Carpenter. The latter was a very usefull Man, he has left a Wife and a very large Family behind him.

August 2, Friday. . . . Mr. Pounsett, a small matter better to day. Very hot still. To Marshalls Son for half a Dozen Whiting pd. o. 1. o. I walked to Cary about 2. o'clock and dined & spent the Afternoon at



Mrs. R. Clarkes, with her, my Brother and Wife and Nancy. We had for Dinner, boiled Maccarel fricasseed Chicken, Neck of Mutton roasted &c. Nancys Mother & her Son Frank drank Coffee & Tea this Afternoon at Mrs. Clarkes with us. She came in a Chaise from Ansford Inn, neither Mrs. Clarke nor my Brothers Wife ever saw her before. She behaved very gracious to her Daughter, carried her to Wm. Woodfordes at Gallhampton & back again. She looks old and haggard. I dont know that I have seen her before for twenty Years, very civil to me but very deaf. I returned to Cole as I went by myself about 9. o'clock. It still continues very hot. We have not had so warm a Summer for many Years as this seems to promise.

August 7, Wednesday. . . . Mr. & Mrs. Pounsett better to day. From 12. o'clock till 4. in the Afternoon we had much loud Thunder, with very vivid flashes of lightning, and a great deal of heavy Rain all the time. My Brother came to Cole on horseback about 4. o'clock, he intended being with us by 2. o'clock, but as he came from Shepton Montague he was overtaken with the Thunder Storm, and he got into Pitcomb Barn upon the Hill and there he stayed for 3. hours. He however eat some cold Meat by way of dinner and spent the remaining part of the Afternoon with us, and played a Pool of Quadrilles, at which at 1.<sup>d</sup> per fish lost 0. 1. 0. My Brother left us about 8. o'clock. Dinner to day boiled Salmon, Neck of Mutton roasted &c. Nancy Woodforde we heard was at Wincaunton Races Yesterday with Willm. and his Wife in their Chaise. Thank God, we recd. no Injury from the Tempest to-day nor heard of any near us. Pray God, all may escape as well. The Mill-Pond all cleansed, bridge &c. finished this Evening.

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August 8, Thursday. . . . Mr. Frank Woodforde smoaked a Pipe with us this Aft: and drank Coffee & Tea at Cole. Mr. John Burge called at the door to enquire after Mr. Pounsett, but did not get off his horse. He drank a large Glass of strong beer.

August 11, Sunday. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at Cole. Mr. Pounsett rather better. Appetite now pretty good. I walked to Pitcomb Church this Morn' with my Sister Pounsett & Daughter and heard Mr. Roberts read Prayers & Preach—a very good Sermon. Mr. Dalton & Miss Dalton, Mrs. Shirley & Mr. J<sup>n</sup><sub>o</sub> Dalton at Church. On our return from Church we called in at Mr. Daltons & stayed half an Hour. Dinner to day, fore Quarter of Lamb roasted &c.

August 12, Monday. . . . Mr. Pounsett near the same as Yesterday. Mr. J<sup>n</sup><sub>o</sub> Dalton called on me soon after breakfast, and I walked out with him a fishing till 1. o'clock—caught nothing at all, lost a Trout above a Pound, I believe for want of a dip net, broke in taking of him out and fell into the Water. Mr. Robert White & Mr. Fooks from Shepton Mallett dined, supped & spent the Evening with us. A Miss Clements of Wick made Miss Pounsett a Visit this Afternoon & drank Tea with us. We walked home with her back, myself, Mr. R. White, Mr. Fooks and my Niece Jane Pounsett. We met her Mother coming after her; her Father is a farmer but very rich, able they say to give his Daughter 10. thousand Pounds. Miss Clements is about 18, not handsome.

August 13, Tuesday. . . . To Mr. Pounsetts Man, Philip, to get a groce of Pipes the first Opportunity gave o. 3. o. Mr. Pounsett rather better to day. Mr. Robt. White & Mr. Fooks dined at Cole with Mr. Pounsett whilst we were gone to Gallhampton. About

1. o'clock I went with my Sister Pounsett and her Daughter to Gallhampton to Willm. Woodfordes in a Chaise from Bruton where we dined and spent the Afternoon with him, his Wife, my Brother and his Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke, Nancy, and a strange Clergyman by name Askew & lives at Honywicke. We had a very handsome dinner, a fine Piece of Salmon, round of Beef boiled, three Chicken boiled and Pigs face, a Couple of Ducks roasted & Cheesecakes Apple-Pye and a Gooseberry Pye. Everything in a very tasty Manner, bluee Water-Glasses with Wine Glasses in them after dinner. We spent a very agreeable Day, all matters adjusted between my Brother and Willm. &c. To Williams Servants coming away gave o. 2. o. My Brother walked with me from Williams to C. Cary. My Brothers Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke, Sister Pounsett & Jenny went back all together in the Chaise to Castle Cary and then I got in and went with our folks to Cole, got home before nine o'clock; gave the Driver o. 1. o.

August 14, Wednesday. . . . At Quadrille this Evening lost o. o. 6<sup>d</sup>. Had an unpleasant Letter this Evening from my Maid Betty Dade at Weston Parsonage in Norfolk, informing me that my other Maid Winfred Buderoy has turned out very bad, was with Child and so near her time that she was paid her Wages & sent away from my house which was very well managed by Betty. Poor Mr. DuQuesne rather worse than better.

August 15, Thursday. I breakfasted, supped & slept again at Cole. Got up this morning at 6. o'clock, shaved myself and soon after seven took a walk by myself tho' it rained, to C. Cary and there made a second breakfast at Mrs. R. Clarkes with her and my Brother John and Wife & Nancy. I was pretty wet

before I got thither having no Umbrella with me.<sup>1</sup> After breakfast I walked with my Brother to Ansford Inn to get a Chaise to carry Nancy with me back to Cole as we were to dine at Mr. Daltons at Pitcomb to day. At Ansford Inn for some Rum & Milk pd. o. o. 6. Called at my Sister Whites, and then walked back to my Brothers, and at twelve took Nancy with me in Ansford Inn Chaise and got to Cole by one o'clock, and between 2. and 3 my sister Pounsett & Daughter and Nancy went in Ansford Inn Chaise to Mr. Daltons at Pitcomb, and I walked thither and there we dined & spent the Afternoon with Mr. Dalton his two Daughters and Mr. John Dalton. We had for dinner a fine piece of Salmon, two boiled Chicken & Pigs face, part of a Rump of Beef roasted, a Couple of Ducks roasted and Peas, Currant Pye, Blamange & Tartlets. About 8. we got back to Mr. Pounsetts as we went. I smoked a Pipe in the Afternoon with old Mr. Dalton. To Ansford Inn Driver when he went for home gave 2<sup>s</sup>. 0<sup>d</sup>. Nancy supped & slept at Cole. We spent a very agreeable Day upon the whole. As Mr. Dalton keeps a Chariot I think he should have offered it to us, instead of putting us to the expence of hiring.

August 19, Monday. . . . Mr. Pounsett for some few days past, has been much better but still unable to walk, he was put on his old Horse this Morning after breakfast and rode out for near two Hours. His old Horse had likely to have been lost last night, had fell into the River in long Ham and could not get out, was obliged to be helped out early this Morning, not much hurt. A Mr. Hussey of Wincaunton Cabinet-Maker &c. (who married Mr. Willm. Webbs Sister of Win-

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note vol. ii, p. 300, on Umbrellas.

caunton, and is Father to Miss Hussey who lives with Mr. Webb in London a very handsome young Lady but no fortune) spent the Morning or most part of it at Cole. Dinner to day, Tripe boiled, boiled Beef and a Cottage Pye, and Apple Dumplins. Nancy and her Cousin walked to Bruton in the Aft. and drank Tea at Mrs. Sampsons. Briton went with them. At Cribbage this Evening with Mr. Pounsett won o. 6.

August 20, Tuesday. . . . Mr. J<sup>n</sup> Dalton made us a Visit between Tea & Supper. My Niece Jane Pounsett has a penchant <sup>1</sup> for J<sup>n</sup> Dalton she likes him exceedingly tho' he is near twenty Years older than herself.

August 21, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. To J<sup>n</sup> Talley bringing some more Mushrooms gave 1. o. Mr. Frank Woodforde & Wife and Daughter Fanny, My Brother and Wife and Mrs. R. Clarke dined and spent the Afternoon at Cole. My Brother was got pretty forward before dinner, having been down to Barrow &c. After dinner was very noisy and nothing but was vulgar in the extreme came from him. It made me very uneasy to see him so. Dinner to day 4. fine Trout boiled, Ham and three boiled Chicken, a Leg of Mutton roasted, Apple-Pye & Currant Pye, Custards & Blamange. Our Company left us about 8. o'clock.

August 22, Thursday. . . . Captain Dawe of Ditcheat and his Niece Mrs. Christie formerly Sophy Dawe dined & spent the Aft. at Cole. Miss Sampson of Bruton drank Tea this Aft. at Cole. Dinner to day Beans & Bacon, hash Mutton &c. Captain Dawe & his Niece left us about 7. o'clock and returned as they

<sup>1</sup> Curious that Parson Woodforde should use a 'frenchified' word, but the manuscript is unmistakable.



came on single Horses. Miss Sampson went soon after, she was on foot, we walked back with her to the Turnpike Gate. Going thither we met Mr. J<sup>n</sup> Dalton, and soon after Mrs. John Goldsborough and Daughter. Mrs. Christie as well as Miss Sampson, very great on the Piano forte—If any thing Mrs. Christie is greatest.

August 24, Saturday. . . . To an Italian for 2. Figures in Plaistor of Paris, one of the King of Prussia <sup>1</sup> & another of the present Duke of York <sup>2</sup> both on horseback & coloured gave o. o. 6. Mr. Pounsett much better but cannot walk yet. He was put on the horse & rode out this Morning. Dinner to day beef stakes & a Partridge roasted &c. We played at Quadrille after Tea this Evening lost nothing. Mr. Frank Woodfordes Son, Tom, called here Yesterday on his return home from School. A Boy by name Davis came with him, did not stay five minutes. Davis's Father is Steward to the Marquiss of Bath who lives at Long Leat—Lrd. Weymouth that was.<sup>3</sup> They both go to the Charter House and they came from London together the Day before Yesterday.

August 25, Sunday. . . . I took a Walk this Afternoon

<sup>1</sup> Friedrich Wilhelm II (1744–97) nephew of Frederick the Great. His most noteworthy act was the shameless (second) partition of Poland with Catherine of Russia in 1792–3. At this time Parson Woodforde thinks of him as England's ally against France, but he was a broken reed, making peace with her on April 5, 1795 by the treaty of Basle. (See also footnote, vol. ii, pp. 352–3.)

<sup>2</sup> See foot-notes, vol. ii, p. 138 and vol. iii, p. 321.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Thynne, first Marquis of Bath, sometime Viceroy of Ireland and Secretary of State. 'He was a man of very eminent talents, but accompanied with great singularities of character. Of a disposition highly convivial, his conversation entertained and delighted. In order, however, to profit by his society it became necessary to follow him to White's, to sit down to supper, to drink deep of claret, and to remain at table till a very late hour of the night, or rather of the morning.' (See *Wraxall's Memoirs*, vol. ii, pp. 299–300, Wheatley's edition.) He died in 1796.



with my Sister Pounsett, Jane, and Nancy, to Farmer Clements of Wick and there drank Tea with the Farmer, Wife, and Daughter. We returned home before 8. o'clock, very hearty People. . . .

August 26, Monday. . . . Washing Week at Cole this Week, all at Harwich.<sup>1</sup>

August 28, Wednesday. . . . Soon after I breakfasted, took a walk towards Ansford and Briton went with me. In a lane by Coomb met Mr. Robt. White and he walked with me to Ansford and he went over my grounds at Ansford with me. I took an Account of some of the Trees on my Estate and whilst we were about it, Mr. Pounsett sent over his Man Philip to me to let me know that Mr. Martin's Clerk, Richd. Colborne, wanted to see me. We then went into Robin Shoards to speak to him, from thence to Ansford Inn where I paid Helliar for a Chaise twice, viz. to Allhampton for Nancy to see her Mother, and to Pitcomb, in all o. 18. o. Then called on my Brother at C. Cary, he having had a bad fall last Friday in Cary Street & terribly cut the back part of his head, found him tolerably well. It was a great mercy that he was not killed. From my Brothers walked immediately to Cole and got thither by two o'clock, and transacted all my business with Ricd. Colborne in half an Hour. Mr. Martins Mortgage transferred to Mr. Napper. Paid Richd. Colborne for Mr. Martin for the Interest of 700£, at 4 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  per Cent. to Aug. 1st 30. 16. o. To Ditto, for Stamps &c. in transferring 1. 7. 6. Paid Mr. Colborne in all the Sum of 32. 3. 6. Mem. from the first of this Month August for the future, it was this day agreed, that I should pay but

<sup>1</sup> For Parson Woodforde's explanation of this phrase see vol. i, p. 206, entry for June 13, 1777.

four per Cent. per Annum. Mr. Richd. Colborne did not stay to dinner. Dinner to day, Whiting boiled & fried, and part of a Rump of Beef boiled &c. N.B. I paid for the Whiting this Morn' o. 1. 0. In the Afternoon I walked by myself into Bruton paid Mrs. Penny at the blue Ball a Widow, for a Chaise to Gallhampton o. 13. 0, returned to Cole to Tea and after Tea we got to Quadrille again, at which I won o. 1. 6. To old John Tally of Hatspen in my Walk gave o. 1. 0.

August 31, Saturday. . . . Phylly Hole of Shepton-Mallet with a Miss Spencer, Sister White and Son Robert dined & spent the Afternoon with us at Cole. Whilst we were at Dinner, Miss Webb and a Miss Hussey from London came to Cole in a Post-Chaise and they dined, supped and slept at Mr. Pounsetts. My Sister Pounsett and Nancy slept at the other House. Dinner to day a Couple of Chicken boiled and a Piggs Face, a Leg of Mutton roasted & a Couple of Ducks. Miss Hussey is a smart, pretty, tasty young Lady abt. 22, plays extremely well on the Piano forte and sings delightfully. She is very fair, auburn hair. Sister White & Robert, Phylly Hole & Miss Spencer left us about 9. o'clock. Miss Spencer is a very agreeable Woman. Phylly Hole & Miss Spencer walked from Ansford & back again. They lost their road coming to Cole and were caught in the Rain.

Sept. 2, Monday. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. again at Cole. Miss Webb and Miss Hussey breakfasted, dined, supped & slept again at Cole. Betsy Guppey came from Sherborne this morning having completed her two Years in learning the Mantua-making business with a Miss Poole. She is grown quite a Woman and very comely. She dined, supped and slept at Cole. To a

poor old Man, an American, gave o. 1. o. Dinner to day, hash Mutton, bubble & squeak, Veal Cutlets, a Suet Pudding and an apple Pudding. After Coffee and Tea this Evening, Mr. and Mrs. Pounsett, Miss Webb and myself, got to Quadrille, lost o. 1. o.

Sept. 3, Tuesday. . . . Mrs. Richard Clarke sent us over this morning the middle part of a fine Salmon, it was very kind indeed of them, gave their Man o. 1. o. William Woodforde, his Brother &c. sent a Note this Morning to Nancy to excuse their dining with us to day on Account of the Weather, as it rained a little in the Morning—a very poor Excuse in my Opinion. My Sister busy in making Cheese-cakes this Morn'. To a little Girl at Molly Arnolds gave o. 1. o. William Woodforde's Wife very goodnaturedly came over by her self in her one Chaise to Cole, and dined and spent the Afternoon with us. William & Sam very impolitely stayed at home. Dinner to day a fine Piece of Salmon boiled, a Fillett of Veal roasted, Cheese-cakes &c. Mrs. Willm. Woodforde left us soon after Tea, and then Miss Webb, Miss Hussey, Mr. Pounsett and self got to Cards Whist, Miss Hussey my Partner, we won o. 1. o. We had a very merry, laughing Day of it.

Sept. 6, Friday. . . . My Tenant Robt. Shoard of Ansford called on me between two and three this Afternoon and paid me what was due to me to Lady day last past 15. o. o. Paid Marshalls Son this Morning for fish o. 2. 6. Dinner to day, fryed Plaise, Pork & Greens and a Nice Hare roasted. In the Evening Miss Webbs Brother Willm. of Wincaunton came to us and he supped and slept at Cole. He slept over the way. Mr. John Dalton came with him but he left us about 8.

Sept. 7, Saturday. . . . Soon after breakfast Mr. Webb went out a shooting killed a brace of Partridges, a Hen

Pheasant and a fine fat Rail. Mr. Webb is a very good Shot. For some Plaise of old Marshall this Morn' pd. 1. 6. Mrs. Hole of Shepton Mallett sent Mr. Pounsett a pair of very fine soals by Philip, whom Mr. Pounsett sent over to Shepton for some Rum this morning. Dinner to day a Dish of Fish, boiled Leg of Mutton, Beef Stakes and a fine Pheasant roasted &c. Mr. Webb went to Wincaunton about 6. in the Evening. At Quadrille this Evening lost 0<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup>. It was late before we got to bed to Night.

Sept. 8; Sunday. . . . I took a Walk this Afternoon abt. 2. o'clock with Nancy, Miss Webb, Miss Hussey and my Niece Pounsett and Betsy Guppy to Pitcomb Church and heard Mr. Roberts of Bruton read Prayers and Preach. None of the Dalton Family at Church this Afternoon. A Master Cooth from Pauls Academy at C. Cary, some near Relation of Miss Webbs dined & spent the Aft. at Cole. We did not dine to day till we returned from Church. Dinner to day a Loin of Veal roasted, a boiled Rabbitt & Onion Sauce, some Beef Stakes, a fine Pheasant roasted, Apple Pudding and Cheese-cakes. Miss Hussey complained of being ill this Evening, went to bed sooner than usual and took some Rhubarb. I believe it to be owing to eating too many filberts &c.

Sept. 9, Monday. . . . Young Tewkesbury of Wincaunton tuned my Niece Pounsetts grand Piano forte and he dined with us. At Quadrille this Evening with Miss Webb, My Sister Pounsett and Husband & myself, won 0. 1. 6. To a Man for some Gingerbread Nutts pd. 0. 1. 0. Dinner to day, boiled Chine of Beef, Mutton Soup, a Suet Pudding, a fine Pheasant roasted with a brace of Partridges and a fine fat Rail.

Sept. 11, Wednesday. . . . Miss Webb & Miss Hussey,

Mrs. R. Clarke, my Brother & Wife, Nancy Woodforde, Sister Pounsett & Daughter, Betsy Guppey and myself, took an Excursion this Morning to Stourhead to see Sr. Richd. Hoares <sup>1</sup> House & Gardens, and we all dined at the Inn there. Miss Webb, and my Sister Pounsett went with me in Bruton Chaise, Mrs. R. Clarke, Nancy Woodforde & Jenny Pounsett, in one of Ansford Inn Chaises, my Brother & Wife & Miss Hussey in another of Ansford Inn Chaises, and Betsy Guppey rode on horseback, single. After we had refreshed ourselves at the Inn with a Glass of Wine and eat a Biscuit, we walked to Sr. Richd. Hoares and saw his House and Gardens. I dont think that the Gardens or House are kept so neat as in old Mr. Hoares time. I gave the Gardner o. 2. 6. To Patty Collins, who shewed the House gave o. 5. o. Mem. Patty Collins is a Daughter of Fanny Collins. It was near 4. o'clock before we returned to the Inn. The Dinner had been ready some time. It was very acceptable to all of us, tho' some talked of returning to Cole to dinner. We stayed at Stourhead Inn till about 6. o'clock, and returned home as we went by 8. o'clock after spending a very agreeable & merry day. For our Dinners &c. I paid & gave 1. 16. 6. The Ladies pretty well tired before they got to bed.

Sept. 12, Thursday. . . . Mr. Pounsett had a Haunch of Venison sent him this Morning from one Bull of Bruton who keeps the Bell Inn there. To a poor Foreigner with a Petition gave o. 2. 6. Willm. Woodforde just called here this Afternoon in his way to Bruton, he was on foot. . . .

Sept. 13, Friday. . . . Willm. Woodforde sent over this Afternoon a verbal invitation to dinner to Morrow,

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. ii, p. 210.



his last Child being to be christened then, but none of us could go having Company to dine with us on a fine haunch of Venison to Morrow. The Invitation might have been made sooner.

Sept. 18, Wednesday. . . . I settled Accounts this morning with Mr. Pounsett from Sep<sup>er</sup>. 1789, to Sep<sup>er</sup>. 1793, and I recd. the balance of Mr. Pounsett of 19. 0. 0. He had recd. for me the Sum of 170. 6. 0. He had paid for me the Sum of 151. 5. 9. Balance of Accounts 19. 0. 3. My Brother John dined & spent the Aft. with us. Dinner to day a Neck of Pork roasted &c. To John Tally Junr. being out of work gave 0. 1. 0. At Quadrille this Evening won 0. 1. 0. which I gave to Betsy Guppy.

Sept. 20, Friday. . . . Soon after I took a Walk to Castle-Cary by myself, and dined & spent the Afternoon at Mrs. R. Clarkes, with her, my Brother John and his Wife. Before dinner my Brother took a walk with me to Ansford to my Tenants Robin Shoard, whom we saw in one of my Fields called Worthise, and there gave him notice before my Brother to leave my Estate at Lady Day next old Stile—As I intend raising the same, and he not capable of being advanced, having already hurt himself at the old Rent. Whilst at Ansford saw my old Uncle and Aunt, my Sister White, Mrs. Frank Woodforde and my poor Niece Nancy Clarke at Betty Lancashiers. Willm. Woodforde and Wife with Nancy Woodforde came to Mrs. Clarkes this Afternoon and drank Coffee and Tea with us. Nancy is to spend a day or two there with Mrs. Clarke. They were caught in the Rain. We had for dinner the best part of a Rump of Beef boiled, a Couple of Chicken roasted & and an Apple Pudding. I returned to Cole about 7. o'clock, found Miss Webb &



Miss Hussey at Cole on their return from Wells, and they supped and slept at Cole. We got to Cards (Whist) before Supper, Miss Hussey and me, against Miss Webb and Mr. Pounsett. I won o. 3. 6. We made it rather late before we got to bed.

Sept. 21, Saturday. . . . Mr. Dalton called on us this morning and brought a brace of Pheasants with him to my Sister Pounsett. My Brother called here at the same time this Morn' in his way to Bruton. I walked with Mr. Dalton to Bruton this morning and the Ladies went with us part of the way, but the Rain coming they did not go far. Whilst I was at Bruton I walked to Mrs. Pennys at the blue Ball and paid her for a Chaise to Stourton & back again and also a Saddle Horse o. 15. 6. On my return to Cole from Bruton found my Niece Mrs. Robert White at Mr. Pounsetts, and she with her husband dined & spent the Afternoon at Cole. After Tea this Evening we got to Cards, Quadrille, at which I lost at 1<sup>d</sup>. per fish o. o. 6. About 8. o'clock this Evening my Brother John on his return from Bruton, with Mr. Blackmore an Attorney at Castle Cary called at Cole and they supped and spent the Evening at Cole, and we made it late to night near 12. o'clock. My Brother was very talkative and very loud. I spent a very unpleasant Evening of it. Dinner to day, about 3. Pound of Salmon boiled, a Loin of Mutton roasted & about 2. Pound of Beef-Stakes with a few Apple Dumplins—very small Dinner for so many Mouths in Parlour and Kitchen, in all fifteen People reckoning both Houses. Considering also the Company we had to Supper very short Commons, only some Tripe, a few Prawns, and part of a cold Dried Tongue.

Sept. 24, Tuesday. . . . I was very hoarse to day having

caught a bad Cold. I eat no Shambles Meat all day. Dinner to day Ham and two Chicken boiled, fried Beef, and an Apple-Pye. In the Evening about Tea time Miss Webb's brother joined us, and he supped and slept at Cole. Between Tea and Supper Miss Hussey and me attacked Mr. Webb and Mr. Pounsett, we played three Rubbers, we lost the odd one, pd. o. 1. 6. About 10. o'clock my Brother John came here on foot having had a fall from his Horse very near Cole and Robert White was with him, both much in Liquor. We prevailed on my Brother to sleep at Cole which he did in the other House, thank God that he was not much hurt. It was after one o'clock before I got to bed—bad hours for a bad cold. Sent to my Brothers Wife to let her know of his sleeping at Cole. James Curtis over the way assisted my Brother in the Lane and brought him here, gave him 1. o.

Sept. 26, Thursday. . . . We were sorry to see on this Days Paper from Bath that our very valuable and worthy Friend the Revd. Mr. DuQuesne <sup>1</sup> of Tudden-

<sup>1</sup> Through the kind help of Mr. Louis Du Cane of Fittleworth House, Sussex, I am able to supplement the information about Mr. Du Quesne given in the foot-note to vol. ii, p. 70. He was great-grandson of the famous Admiral, Abraham Du Quesne (1610–88), 1st Marquis, who between 1676 and 1685 established French naval supremacy for Louis XIV in the Mediterranean, destroying the Algerian pirates and humbling the republic of Genoa. The Admiral was a Huguenot, and his family left France some time after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685: the Admiral died in Paris in 1688. Mr. Du Quesne's grandfather was Henry, 2nd Marquis Du Quesne 1651–1722, and his father Gabriel, 3rd Marquis (b. in Paris 1684, d. some time after 1740) was an officer in the English Army, being a Lt.-Col. in the Horse Grenadier Guards in 1717, and Governor of Port Royal in Jamaica. From a petition to the Lords of the Treasury in the Public Record Office (Treasury Papers, vol. ccii, (4) 34, January to April 1740) it appears that the petitioner (Colonel Gabriel Du Quesne) had lost his fortune in 'the fatal South Sea Scheme', and that on that account and on account of the loss of his Jamaica appointment he had been promised a

ham was no more. It is a very great Loss to us, but I hope to him, Gain. Pray God he may be eternally happy. Dinner to day boiled Leg of Mutton & a roasted Rabbit. In the Afternoon Miss Webb and Miss Hussey went in a Wincaunton Chaise (which was sent for them) to Wincaunton to spend a few days there and then for Bath and London. They left us between 4. and 5. in the Afternoon. At Cribbage this Evening with Mr. Pounsett, lost 1. 6.

Sept. 28, Saturday. . . . Nancy had a Letter from Mrs. Bodham, in which she mentions the Death of poor Mr. DuQuesne. After Tea this Evening we got to Quadrille lost nothing. Dinner to day fried Herrings,

pension of £500 a year which had never been paid, nor had promises of preferment been fulfilled. Therefore the petitioner prays their Lordships 'in regard to his long and faithful services to admit him a sharer of His Majesty's Bounty distributed by your Lordships at Christmas'. This petition is endorsed 'recd. 7th Jan'y 1739. Nothing can be done abt this, the Bounty List being full.' Gabriel Du Quesne's son—our Mr. Du Quesne—was baptized on August 28, 1718 at Twickenham, and as we have seen (foot-note, vol. ii, p. 70) was educated at Eton, and King's College, Cambridge. He was a Fellow of King's from 1741 to 1753. From 1753 to his death in 1793 he was Vicar not only of Honingham with East Tuddenham, but also Rector of Osmundeston *alias* Scole. (See List of *Norfolk Benefices*, printed by C. Musket 1847.) In addition he was a prebendary both of Lichfield and of Ely, and Chancellor Canon of St. Davids. He was thus an excellent example of eighteenth-century pluralism, and withal a good friend of ours and of Parson Woodforde, since he sent over those strawberries to Weston as long ago as July 11, 1776, and played his violin 'a good deal' on February 4, 1790, and refused to grow old right up to the end, as we have seen in this volume. I have read through his enormously long will, and can assure the reader that it is a most remarkable document of quite unparalleled diffuseness about tea-cups and bed-hangings, and rich relations and poor relations and his housekeeper Elizabeth England (whom he left well provided for) and debts and charities and directions for his own funeral. May he rest in peace.

I should add that Mr. Du Cane possesses the ancestral portraits of our old friend, including one of his mother who was Elizabeth d. of Sir Roger Bradshaigh Bt. of Haigh, Lancs.

Beef-Stakes &c. Poor Betty Speed (late Betty Butt) and formerly Clothier an old Servant Maid of my Fathers and of mine we heard to day, died Yesterday at my House at Ansford. She had been ill some time & given over by Dr. Sampson. Poor Woman, my Sister & me were sorry to hear of it. Mr. DuQuesne died the 15. of this Month.

Oct. 3, Thursday. . . . Sister Pounsett and Daughter went with me in a Bruton Chaise about two o'clock to Castle-Cary to Mr. John Burge's where we dined and spent the Afternoon with him, his Wife, Mrs. Millard, My Brother & Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke and Nancy Woodforde. We had a very handsome dinner, very fine Soals nicely fried, boiled Ham & three boiled Chicken, a large Piece of Beef roasted, a very fine fat Goose roasted, Apple Pye, Barberry Pye, and Custard. After Coffee and Tea we returned, as we went, to Cole and got home by seven in the Evening. Gave Mr. Burge's Servant Man, Saml. o. 1. o. Gave Js. the Bruton Chaise Driver o. 2. o. Drank the best Cyder at Mr. Burges that I have tasted ever since I have been in the West. A Mr. Salmon of Bristol One of Mrs. Donnes Executors called here this Morning & paid Mr. Pounsett 150. o. o being Legacies to his Daughter & Betsey Guppy.

Oct. 5, Saturday. . . . About Noon I took a Walk to Ansford & C. Cary and dined & spent the Afternoon at Mrs. R. Clarkes with her, my Brother and Wife, Nancy Woodforde, and her Brother William from Gallhampton. Called on my Sister White at Ansford, she is still poorly, but I hope rather better than she was. Saw Robert and his Wife & little Sophia. Called at Ansford Inn and paid Hillier for 2. Chaises to Stourhead at 16/0 each 1. 12. o. Paid him also for a Chaise

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to Allhampton for Nancy Yesterday to go & take leave of her Mother o. 7. 6. My Brother and Wife & Mrs. R. Clarke went with Nancy, and all drank Tea with her Mother in the Afternoon Yesterday, and she behaved tolerably well. After Tea this Afternoon, Nancy went with me in Ansford Inn Chaise to Cole where she supped & slept. Gave the Driver, by name Saml. o. 1. o. We got home to Cole before 7. o'clock.

Oct. 7, Monday. . . . Very busy all the Morning in packing up our great Trunk, which is to go by the London Waggon to Morrow from Castle Cary. Miss Clements of Wycke called here this morning as did Miss Mary Dalton, but neither stayed very long. To Nanny Cock, formerly Nanny Bush, gave o. 1. o. Old Mr. Dalton spent the Afternoon with us and smoked two Pipes at Cole Place. . . .

Oct. 8, Tuesday. . . . Before dinner we all walked into Bruton to a Sale—Mr. Bonds, who is an Attorney but lately absconded being very much in debt, by living away highly. As we walked to Bruton about 1. Field from the road we went and looked at the Corpse of a young Man who was accidentally drowned in the River Yesterday Morning, his Name was Sugg, a married Man. . . .

Oct. 9, Wednesday. . . . My Brother and Wife, and Mrs. R. Clarke breakfasted at Cole, and then walked back to their House at Cary, Sister Pounsett & Daughter, Nancy & self walked with them as far as old John Tally's at Hatspen, and there we took our leave of them till we next see Somersett. Pray God send them health till that time. Gave my Niece, Jane Pounsett, this Morn' 2. 2. o. Gave Betsy Guppey also this Morn' 1. 1. o.

Oct. 11, Friday. We breakfasted at Cole & spent part of



the Morn' there. To Mr. Pounsetts Servants gave 1. 1. 0. To Sybbil & Sally at the other house gave 0. 5. 0. About 11. o'clock this morning we took our leave of our Cole Friends, got into one of Bruton Chaises and went off for Frome, got to Frome by one o'clock, had some little refreshment there for which I paid about 0. 3. 6. For the Bruton Chaise, single Horse & Driver pd. 1. 2. 0. About 2. o'clock we got into a Frome Chaise for Bath, but had not gone above 500. Yards from the Inn, going up Frome Hill, when on a sudden turn up the Hill we met with a large tilted London Waggon with eight Horses in it and very heavily loaden, and it being very narrow where we met it, the Driver of the Chaise in backing his Horses to avoid being drove over overturned the Chaise, but very providentially blessed be Almighty God for it! we received very little Injury, Nancys Face was a little bruised. It was a wonder that we escaped so well, as we were afraid that the Waggon would have crushed us. Briton got off his Horse & stopped the Horses in the Waggon, The Waggoner being rather behind. The Chaise Windows & Pole were broke, we therefore walked back to the Inn, stayed about half an Hour till the Pole was mended, and then set off in the same Chaise for Bath. We got to Bath (thank God safe & well) about six o'clock this Evening, to the White Hart Inn in Stall Street, kept by one Pickwick, where we drank Tea, supped and slept, a very good, very capital Inn, everything in stile. Sent Briton this Evening with a Basket of Game to Mr. & Mrs. Custance No. 1. Portland Place. There were in it a brace of Pheasants & a Hare. For the Frome Chaise, single Horse & Driver pd. 1. 2. 0.

Oct. 12, Saturday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again



at Pickwicks. Mr. Custance called on us this morning and he desired us to dine with him, which we promised. After Mr. Custance left us we walked about Bath and at Percivals Shop in Milsome, I bought two new gowns for my Brothers Wife and her Sister Mrs. Richd. Clarke, and a Waistcoat Piece for my Brother, all fashionable, and from whom we recd. when in Somerset, every mark of attention. Paid for the whole to Percival 2. 5. 6. We packed up the same and I carried it to Mr. Roubelles in the Orange Grove for them to send it by Hunt the Wincaunton Carrier the next time he goes, which he promised me. We then went home & dressed and then walked to Portland Place and dined & spent the Afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Custance, their Children Willm., Fanny and Emily, & their Governess Miss Welker. We stayed there till near eight and then returned to our Inn, which was almost a Mile from it.

Oct. 13, Sunday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at Pickwicks. After breakfast we walked to the Abbey Church and heard Divine Service—The Sermon preached by a Mr. Wake, a good Preacher and a good Sermon. The Church was very full indeed. After Divine Service we walked to the Pump Room where was a great deal of polite Company, coming out of the Pump-Room, very unexpectedly met Counsellor Caldecot Steward of New-College and an old School Fellow of mine, who with the Warden of New-College Dr. Oglander & another Gentleman of New College by name Hamley arrived this morning at Bath on their Progress. They went to the same Inn that we were at, the white Hart. We dined & spent the Afternoon at Portland Place with Mr. and Mrs. Custance and little ones & Miss Welker. We drank Tea this

Evening with Mr. and Mrs. Attfields. Nancy supped & spent the Evening in Gay Street at Mr. Attfields. I supped and spent the Evening with the Warden, Mr. Caldecot and Mr. Hamley at our Inn. They leave Bath to Morrow Morn'. Nancy also met with Miss Hussey at the Pump Room she did not appear so cheerful as when at Cole.

Oct. 14, Monday. We breakfasted, dined, supped & slept again at Pickwicks at the White Hart. The Warden breakfasted with us, and soon after he set off in a Post-Chaise for Oxford. Mr. Caldecot and Mr. Hamley went off early this morning for Oxford, did not see them. Soon after breakfast we took a Walk to Mrs. Attfields and she walked with us to the Crescent where she shewed a Mr. Whalleys House, a very neat elegant House, Furniture superb, Pictures very fine indeed. I gave the Maid at the House o. 1. o. About 1. o'clock we walked to the Pump Room & stayed near an Hour there in seeing the Company. Nancy saw Miss Hussey and she engaged us to Tea this Afternoon at Mr. Ways in Marlborough buildings. For fruit &c. this morning pd. o. o. 6. Called at the White Lion in the Market Place kept by one Arnold, and took two inside Places and one outside in the Oxford Coach for Wednesday Morn' next, paid there half the Fare 1. 7. o. In the Evening we walked to No. 1. Marlborough Buildings to Mr. Ways where we drank Tea with Mr. and Mrs. Way, and Miss Hussey. Mr. Way seems rather morose with a stern aspect—Mrs. Way, so, so. Miss Hussey appears under great restraint. Mr. Way is a very rich Man & no Children. We returned home to our Inn about 8. o'clock.

Oct. 15, Tuesday. We breakfasted and spent part of the Morning at the White Hart Inn. Mr. Custance

[called] on us this morning and desired our Company to Tea in the Aft. We then packed up our things and removed from the White Hart to the White Lion, as we set off from thence to Morrow Morn' at 6. o'clock for Oxford. Then paid my Bill at the W. Hart, 2. 6. 5. To Barber and Servants at the W. Hart gave o. 18. 6. I then walked with Nancy to Miss Husseys, and she walked with us about the City, to the Pump Room &c. till 2. o'clock, we left her at the Pump Room with Mrs. Way. To a pair of Bath Garters pd. o. 1. o. About three o'clock we walked to the White Lion and there dined, supped and slept. In the Evening we walked to Portland Place, & drank Coffee and Tea with Mr. and Mrs. Custance and a Mr. Whitby, a Clergyman much respected and of great fortune and whom I went to School with at Winton College. We stayed there till after 8. o'clock, and then took our leave of the Custance Family and returned to the White Lion. As we go early to Morrow Morn' paid my Bill at the White Lion this Evening for Dinner &c. o. 17. 6 money enough I think. To Servants gave o. 3. 6. The White Lion is a very good Inn but very dear. Mrs. Custance sent a Parcel by Nancy to Lady Bacon. I carried three Letters with me from Mr. Custance.

Oct. 16, Wednesday. We got up this morning at 5 o'clock and at six sat off in the Oxford Post-Coach for Oxford. Two young Gentlemen went with us in it. Gave the Porter that called us &c. o. 1. o. We all breakfasted at Chippenham pd. there o. 2. 6. We dined at Cricklade, paid there o. 6. o. We passed thro' Malmsbury and there staying to change Horses, we walked and saw the Ruins of Malmesbury Abbey & Church, gave the Clerk o. 1. o. About 8 o'clock this Evening we got safe & well to Oxford (blessed be God for it) to the

Angel Inn in high Street, where we supped & slept. To Coachmen to day gave o. 4. o. Paid also to the Coachman the remaining fare 1. 7. o. For Luggage also paid him o. 4. o. We were rather tired & jaded before we got to bed.

Oct. 17, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, supped & slept at the Angel Inn. After breakfast we walked about the University by ourselves. A Meeting of the Warden & Fellows of New-College being this morning we did not call there. We went to Christ Church and called at Dr. Bathursts <sup>1</sup> but he and Family were in the Country. I called at New-College about 2. o'clock this Afternoon saw Caldecot and Mr. Cook who was last Year presented to the Living of Hardwiche, and also saw Mr. Sissmore who behaved very kindly to me. They desired me much to dine at College to Morrow. Caldecot shewed me the improvements making in the Chapel, which when finished will be one of the finest Sights in the whole University. After Dinner I took another Walk with my Niece and shewed her more of the University. She went with me this Evening to Magdalen College Chapel to Prayers. We returned to our Inn to Tea, and after Tea I walked into St. Giles's and called on my Friend Dr. Holmes formerly of New-Coll. saw him, Wife & Sister, desired him to give my Niece a Dinner to Morrow at his House, as I am to dine at New-College then—rather formal reception. I called at Dr. Walls in St. Giles's but did not see him. In my return to my Inn called on the Head of Exeter College Dr. Stinton who is bad in the Gout stayed about half an Hour and then went to my Inn. Called on my Friend Locke the Silversmith this Morning who behaved very obligingly and knew me at first

<sup>1</sup> See short account of Dr. Bathurst, vol. i, p. 295.

Sight. I changed a ten Pound Note with him, he keeps a Bank and does great Business. Dr. Holmes's Wife is a very agreeable Woman, and his Sister is very pleasant, exactly like him. The high Street of Oxford greatly improved since I last saw it all paved like London, and I think is one of the finest Streets in the Kingdom.

Oct. 18, Friday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at the Angel. After breakfast we walked to New College, called at the Wardens and saw his Lodgings he was not at home, being gone to Staunton on the Progress. Gave his old Maid Betty, shewing his House o. 1. o. Mr. Sissmore one of the Senr. Fellows of New-Coll. and a Cotemporary of mine there, shewed us the College and went with us over the University, as did my old Friend Washbourne Cooke, presented last Year to the Living of Hardwicke late Dr. Bridewell's. About 2. o'clock we parted, and I walked with Nancy to our Inn to dress, after which I walked with her to Dr. Holmes's in St. Giles's where she dined with Mrs. Holmes and Miss Holmes Sister to the Dr. He was gone out a shooting & did not return till five in the Afternoon. After leaving Miss W. at Dr. Holmes, I went to New College and there dined in the Hall & spent the Afternoon in the Senior Common Room with Cooke who acted as Sub-Warden, Mr. Sissmore, Mr. Caldecot, Mr. Charles Bathurst, Mr. Cummins, Mr. Hamley &c. 16 in all. We had for dinner a Rump of Beef boiled, a Jigget of Mutton alias Haunch roasted with sweet Sauce &c. &c. About 6. o'clock took my leave of the Gentlemen of New Coll. as we go for London to Morrow, and went and drank Tea at Dr. Holmes's with him, Mrs. Holmes and Miss and my Niece. Gave the old Senr. Com. Room Man W. Big-



nell 2. 6. Gave the old Porter, George, also 2. 6. We stayed at Dr. Holmes till 8. o'clock and then we walked back to our Inn. The Gentlemen of New-Coll. were very friendly. New College Chapel when complete will be one of the finest Rooms in the Kingdom. The West Window is complete,<sup>1</sup> cost the Coll. 2000. Ps. It was designed by the late Sr. Joshua Reynolds and the Glass painted by the famous Jarvis. The other improvements in the Chapel are directed by the great Architect, Wyatt.<sup>2</sup> I called again to day on Dr. Wall, but not at home.

Oct. 19, Saturday. At 8. this Morning before breakfast we got into one of the London Post-Coaches from the Angel and went off for London, we went by ourselves. Paid & gave at the Angel, Oxford abt. 2. 9. 8. Briton went in the Outside, & thank God! fine Weather. We did not breakfast anywhere, at Slough near Windsor we dined, paid & gave there 0. 7. 6. We had a very good dinner, Fish & Veal Cutlets. We got to London (thank God) safe and well to the Angel Inn in St. Clements about 6 o'clock in the Evening, and there we supped & slept. Paid the Coachman for our Fare to London, 2. Insides at 19<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup> each, outside for Briton 10<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>. Luggage 4<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, Coachman all the way 4<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, in

<sup>1</sup> See the entry for September 12, 1779, vol. i: the three figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity had then just been put up.

<sup>2</sup> James Wyatt, R.A. (1746–1813) practised both the Graeco-Italian and the Gothic styles in architecture. He was made surveyor of Westminster Abbey in 1776, and in 1796 Surveyor-General to the Board of Works. He rebuilt Fonthill Abbey for Beckford in 1795, restored parts of Hereford, Salisbury, and Lichfield Cathedrals (nicknamed 'the Destroyer' by archeologists), was employed much at Oxford and built many country mansions. 'The front of White's club, St. James's Street, is his design . . . there is scarcely a county or large town in the country in which Wyatt did not erect some public or private building.' (See notice of him in *D.N.B.*; there are numerous references to him in Horace Walpole's *Letters*).

all paid & gave to the Coachman 2. 16. o. We were quite by ourselves all the Evening. For trifling things on the road to day pd. o. 1. o.

Oct. 20, Sunday. We breakfasted, supped & slept at the Angel Inn in St. Clements, kept by one Stevenson & Wife. I called this morning at Mr. Coujon's in Newgate Street, and at Mr. Webbs in Tudor-Street near black Friars-Bridge, saw them all. Mr. Coujon pressed me much to dine with them to day, and I promised for my Niece and self so to do. I then returned to my Inn, & told Nancy where I had been and what I had promised for her. It being fine Weather, about 2. o'clock we walked to Mr. Coujon's and there dined & spent the Aft. with him, his Wife, Miss Sally Pope, and a Mr. Baker, who is a Partner with Mr. Coujon. We had for dinner, a Salmon Peal [?] boiled, a Neck of Mutton boiled & Capers, a fine Hare roasted, Pudding & Tarts &c. Old Mr. Coujon with young Tom Woodforde from the Charter House, drank Coffee & Tea with us at Mr. Coujons, old Mr. Coujon is Father to Mr. Coujon a very hearty, good kind of old gentleman. Mrs. Coujon (Mary Pope that was) is very pregnant. She and her Husband appear to be very happy. After Coffee &c. we walked with Miss Sally Pope, Mr. Baker, old Mr. Coujon & Son, and Tom Woodforde to the Charter House, a very shabby building indeed, from thence to the blue Coat School where 700. Boys are kept, all of them in blue Gowns & bands very neat & every thing in the neatest manner, and the buildings very handsome. From thence we walked to the Foundling Hospital, went into the Chapel and attended Divine Service which began at 7. this Evening. The Chapel much crowded, gave o. 3. o. A very good Preacher by name Gregory. The Company that went

with us (all but old Mr. Coujon who went for Islington) returned with us to our Inn and there left us, all but Tom Woodforde who stayed & supped & spent the Evening with us, as did Willm. Woodforde & his Brother Samuel. Both of whom we found on our return.

Oct. 21, Monday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at our Inn. Early in the morning before breakfast I walked to the Swan & two Necks in Lad Lane, and took two inside places & one outside in the Norwich Coach for to Morrow at 4. in the Afternoon, paid the full fare 2. Insides 2. 10. 0 one Outside 14/0, 3. 4. 0. Captain Squires, with my two Nephews Willm. and Saml. breakfasted with us at our Inn on Coffee &c. After breakfast they walked with us to the Leverian Musæum just over black Friars Bridge, one of the first Sights in London, and there we stayed till after one o'clock.<sup>1</sup> We then parted as we were engaged to dine at Mr. Webbs. We went to our Inn for some little time and then walked to Mr. Webbs, where we dined & spent the Afternoon with him & his Sister, and a Mr. Leigh a Clergyman, Brother to a Cotemporary of mine at New-College, a good kind of man. Before Tea

<sup>1</sup> The Leverian Museum was so named after its founder Sir Ashton Lever (1729-88). Lever had a passion for collecting natural objects of all kinds—birds, shells, fossils; savage costumes and weapons also attracted him. A Museum grew up which he transferred to Leicester House in 1774. But he lost money over his enthusiasm. Valued at £53,000 by a Parliamentary Committee in 1783 it was offered to the British Museum Trustees, and declined. In 1788 Lever obtained power to dispose of his collection by public lottery. Eight thousand tickets (out of 36,000) were sold at a guinea each. The winner, a Mr. J. Parkinson, exhibited the Museum in a building called the Rotunda, specially erected on the Surrey side of Blackfriars Bridge. The Museum was dispersed by auction in 1806. (See Wheatley's and Cunningham's *London Past and Present*, vol. ii, p. 381, and the *D.N.B.*)

this Evening I walked by myself to Mr. Coujons and by appointment he went with me to Hackney, in one of the Hackney Coaches, where my Sister Clarke & Son Saml. live, and there I saw both of them. My Sister looked better than I expected to see her, but her Son much emaciated tho' perfectly sensible, much confused at first sight, & very poorly dressed in an old great Coat, pressed me much to stay longer. Sister Clarke came to us, being sent for, to our Inn and drank Tea with us there, and then we went with her to see her Son; he was shut up in a Room quite dark, excepting a very small fire, about 6. o'clock in the Evening. He recollected me immediately, we stayed about 10. minutes with him & my Sister, and then returned back to Town. Hackney is about 3. Miles from Town. For our Tea at Hackney, I paid abt. o. 2. 6. For the fare back to London, I pd. o. 2. 0. Nancy went to Covent Garden Theatre this Evening with her two Brothers and Captain Squires. It was late before she returned, half past eleven. Her Brother Saml. returned with her and he supped & spent the remaining part of the Evening. It was some time after twelve before we got to bed.

Oct. 22, Tuesday. We breakfasted & spent all the Morning and part of the Afternoon till 4. o'clock in London. I breakfasted at the Inn, Nancy breakfasted at Mr. Webbs. I walked with her almost to the house. To little trifling things this morning pd. abt. o. 2. 6. To 2. large Silver Gravy Spoons & 2. Sauce Ladles pd. 3. 10. 0. After breakfast I went for Nancy and she returned with me to our Inn. We packed up our things, paid our Bill at the Angel & to Servants 3. 2. 3. Nancy's Brothers came to us at the Inn, and we all went (Nancy & her Brother Saml. in a Coach & Willm.

and self on foot) to the Swan & 2. Necks in Lad Lane, and there we spent about half an Hour together, eat some cold Meat &c. and then Nancy and self took our leave of them, got into a Norwich Post Coach at 4. o'clock this Afternoon and sat off with Briton for Norwich. Paid for our Dinners at the Swan & Waiter o. 10. o. A Gentleman went with us from London in the inside well acquainted with Oxford. He supped with us at Braintree on beef-Stakes, pd. there o. 4. 6.

Oct. 23, Wednesday. We arrived at Bury about 3 o'clock in the Morn' and there dropped our inside Passenger, and there took up three Ladies, one of them, a Miss Baldwin of Reepham who went with us to Norwich, all of them very agreeable. We breakfasted at Tivets-hall Ram, pd. there o. 2. 6. We travelled all the Night with Lights. About 11 o'clock this Morning We got safe & well to Norwich (thanks to Almighty God for it) and but little fatigued tho' we travelled all night. To the Coachman from London, gave o. 4. o. For extraordinary Luggage, paid o. 10. 6. We dined at the Kings Head, our old Inn, and could scarce get a Room to dine in, being very full. Soon after dinner we got into one of the Kings Head Chaises and went off for Weston, where we got safe and well & found all my People at Weston Parsonage very well & glad to see us, thank God! about 5 o'clock this Afternoon. Paid at the Kings Head for our Dinners Chaise &c. 1. 1. 4. Gave to poor lame Joe, the Boot Catch o. 1. o. Gave the Driver of the Chaise o. 2. o. We drank Tea, supped and slept once more at our old House, Weston Parsonage. Whilst we were at Norwich I wrote a Letter to my Sister Pounsett informing her of our safe arrival at Norwich, & put it into the Post Office myself. Accept O Almighty God! my sincere & unfeigned



thanks for thy great goodness to us, in our late long Journey into the West & back again, and all the dangers we have escaped, particularly for that great & providential escape near Frome in Somersett. Lord! ever make us thankful, and may thy divine goodness ever protect us. Travelling Expenses and others from June 23, 1793 from the time we left Weston to our return back again this Evening to Weston, amounted in the whole—78. 19. 7.

Oct. 24, Thursday. . . . We were busy all the morning in unpacking our Trunks. Gave Betty a new Gown bought in London.

Oct. 25, Friday. . . . Mr. Maynard of Morton called on me this Morn' to desire me to [sign?] his Testimonium, being lately presented to the Living of Morton by Capn. Le Grisse which I did; he is to hold for a Minor—16 Years old. . . .<sup>1</sup>

Oct. 26, Saturday. . . . Paid Briton this morning for divers things 0. 9. 3½. Paid Betty also for things in my absence 1. 13. 2½. Recd. of Betty for Butter sold in absence 2. 19. 2½. Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich after my great Trunk and to bring back some Coal for me. He returned with the above between 5. and 6 o'clock. I privately baptized a Child of John Tooley's this morning at my House, by name Elizabeth. I also privately baptized a Child of Clare Driver's this Evening being ill, by name Hannah. I nominated and appointed Thos. Thurston to being Clerk, in the room of poor old J. Smith. Dinner to day boiled Neck of Mutton & a rost fowl.

<sup>1</sup> John Cartwright Maynard was presented to Helmingham *alias* Morston on November 1, 1793—Patrons Chas. Le Gry's Esq. and Elizabeth his wife. He was succeeded on June 24, 1805 by Chas. Rt. Fanshawe. (*List of Norfolk Benefices*, p. 24.)

Oct. 27, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers & Preached this Morn' at Weston Church. Nancy walked with me to Church being fine Weather. The Church having been repaired during my absence looked very well especially at the entrance. Mr. Forster of Lenewade Bridge sent us a string of fine Eels this morning; gave his Man o. 1. o. . . .

Oct. 28, Monday. . . . Paid Ben this morning for divers things in my absence, Shearing 4. Acres of Wheat &c. 9. 2. 3. Recd. of him for 2. Acres of Hay to J<sup>n</sup> Reeves 8. o. o. Unpacked our great Trunk this Morn', every thing safe. . . .

Oct. 29, Tuesday. . . . Gave Ben this morning, taking care of things o. 10. 6. Gave my Boy Tim. Tooley for ditto o. 2. 6. . . .

Nov. 2, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this morning to Norwich in my little old Cart after News & many other things. Sent by him also a Letter to put into the Post Office for the Revd. Mr. Sissmore of New-College, Oxford, and in it a Norwich Bank Note of Gurneys of ten Pounds, to be presented to the Society of New-College, towards the improvements in their Chapel, which when finished will be great and will be well worth every observer 10. o. o.

Nov. 4, Monday. . . . After breakfast I drove Nancy over to Witchingham being fine Morn' to Mr. Jeans's and spent the remaining part of the Morn' with him & his Wife. We met with Mr. Jeans in our Parish coming to us. Mrs. Jeans is far advanced in pregnancy. We stayed there till almost 2. o'clock, they pressed us much to dine with them, but there being no Moon and likewise some Rain falling we could not, but borrowed an Umbrella and Mr. Jeans's french Cloke for Nancy & returned home by three o'clock. It

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rained tho' very gently all the way. Dinner to day  
Knuckle of Veal boiled & Pigs face and a Neck of Pork  
rosted with apple Sauce. Mrs. Jeans was pressing for  
us to dine with them more than was agreeable. It was  
rather beyond the Line of being pleasing.

Nov. 8, Friday. . . . Paid my Blacksmith, John Buck of  
this Parish a Bill, for work done for a whole Year  
2. 14. 0. Paid my Glazier, Stephen Hubbard of  
Mattishall for work done for me for a Year 0. 12. 6.  
Sent poor old Tom Carr by his Wife 0. 1. 0. . . .

Nov. 9, Saturday. . . . Billy Bidewell brought our News  
&c. from Norwich. Sr. Lambert Blackwall's <sup>1</sup> Servant  
of Easton brought us two Letters this Evening from  
Norwich, one for my Niece from Jane Pounsett and  
one for me from Mr. Sissmore of New-College,  
acknowledging his receiving my late Letter with its  
Contents of 10.£ Norwich Bill to the Society. Thank  
God! that all our friends in the Country by Nancy's  
Letter, were well. Sister White brave. Mr. Bacon of  
Norwich, Printer, gave the Servant our Letters, as he  
received those from me to my Maid, when I was in  
Somerset, which I take very friendly of him so to do.  
My Nephew Willm. Woodforde is returned into  
Somerset, and his Captain Squires with him.

Nov. 12, Tuesday. . . . At Cary's Shop for 2 Yards and  
half of small blue Check, Yard & half wide at 2<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>  
Yard. pd. 5. 0. . . .

Nov. 13, Wednesday. . . . Mr. & Mrs. Townshend with  
one of their Daughters made us a long Morning Visit

<sup>1</sup> Sir Lambert Blackwell (1718-1801), 3rd and last Bt., of Sprowston Hall, Norfolk, succeeded to the Baronetcy July 18, 1741. He married Amelia, widow of Michael Pope, of Whitsun Court, Bristol, and died May 9, 1801, leaving everything—including a valuable collection of paintings, books, and coins—to William Foster junior, Esq., of Norwich. (Cokayne's *Complete Baronetage*, vol. v, pp. 46-7).

and were very friendly and affable, talked a good deal about our late worthy Friend Mr. DuQuesne. Mr. Townshend brought me something in remembrance of him, a plated Cross for the Table, which Mr. DuQuesne often made use of. It was rather the worse for wear, being imperfect.<sup>1</sup> . . .

Nov. 17, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers & Preached, churched a Woman and christened two Children this Aft. at Weston Ch. Had a large Congregation at Church to day. Weston Singers, sung this Afternoon at Church, but their performance was very so, so,—much worse than I last heard them in June. Dinner to day hash Mutton & a Pudding and a very fine Goose roasted with Apple Sauce &c. Very mild open Weather, went to Church without a great Coat. My Appetite very bad.

Nov. 18, Monday. . . . Used a good deal of exercise this morning in my Garden, but had no appetite at dinner however. There was a very large and long Handle of a Coffin in one of our Candles this Evening, as many People call it, and lasted a very long time indeed.

Nov. 19, Tuesday. . . . Got up very early this morning about half past five. Brewed a Barrel of Table Beer to day. We took a Walk this morning to Weston House, it being very pleasant, and walked over most part of it, we found it as well as could be expected but for want of fires, it feels rather cold, and some of the Paper in the Rooms, rather faded. We also walked over the Garden, which appeared in tolerable good order, kept by Knights & Son. Gave Knight's Son, bringing some Strawberry Plants to us Yesterday Morning o. 1. o. I found myself very unwell this

<sup>1</sup> The word *Cross* is not very clear in the MS. but I take this to refer to a plated Cross for the Altar Table.

Aft. so very low. The Gout flying about me. Very much oppressed with Wind in my Stomach. Dinner to-day Neck of Pork roasted &c. I eat but little.

Nov. 21, Thursday. . . . Rather better Night if any thing than the last, but still very indifferent indeed so restless. After I got up this morning found myself better. Paid Ben, this morning, for things o. 17. 6. Paid Briton, ditto, for ditto o. 2. 6½. Paid Betty, ditto, for ditto o. 4. 1½. Mr. George Smith of Mattis-hall, called on me this morning to desire me to sign a Testimo. for Priests Orders at Christmas next. He eat a Biscuit and drank a Glass of Mountain. Recd. of Betty for Butter at 11<sup>d</sup> o. 3. 10. My Appetite very bad respecting Meat at dinner. Dinner to day rost Beef. I dined on Pudding &c. I took 4. Pills this Evening of Nancys recommending which she brought out of Somersett & which my Brother makes use of, made of Castile Soap, rhubarb & Oil of Marsh Mallows.

Nov. 22, Friday. . . . Very restless last Night indeed & perspired greatly had not half an hours sleep the whole Night, thank God however I got up much better than I expected, tho' my Spirits were very low. Mr. and Mrs. Jeans and two Daughters with their Nurse, Susan Harrison, called here this Morn' and made us a long morning Visit, but did not dine with us, there being no Moon. Dinner to day, a Chicken boiled down to Soup and Piggs fry, eat but very little of either. I drank a Glass of Port Wine & eat some tosted Bread to day about 12. o'clock and which seemed to agree with me very well, after dinner also I made free with Port Wine that is, drank six or seven Glasses, and was much more composed after it. At Supper, eat some Pork Stakes wch. I much relished and was much better when I went to bed. The Pills that I took last night



I believe did me great good, and the Port Wine also. Recd. a Letter this Morn' by Sr. Lambert Blackwells Servant, from My Brother which he brought from Norwich—all well.

Nov. 25, Monday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Bodham made us a long Morning Visit, it gave us much pleasure to see them. Mr. Bodham looked poorly & complained much. Mrs. Bodham appeared rather thinner than usual. They were so kind as to bring us a profile Picture of our late worthy Friend Mr. DuQuesne. They eat a Biscuit with us & drank a Glass of Wine. I am much afraid that poor Mr. Bodham is not long one of this World, he is much altered. Soon after Mr. and Mrs. Bodham left us, Mr. Priest of Reepham called on us in his way to Honingham Hall where he dines and sleeps at Mr. Townshends. He is gone to settle Mr. DuQuesne's Affairs with him. I privately baptized a Child of Hubbard's this Afternoon by name John at my House. Dinner to day, boiled beef &c. N.B. Blackbirds & Thrushes singing this Morn' in our Garden as if it was Spring, very mild. Thank God! that I continue bravely & can eat. N.B. Took 4 more of Nancy's Pills this Evening.

Nov. 27, Wednesday. . . . To a poor Kentish Man who goes about the Country and plays Tunes on the Church-Bells, gave o. 1. o. Thank God I still continue finely and go on taking the Pills every other Night. Took four this Evening, going to bed. Sleep very well again.

Nov. 28, Thursday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Mr. Bloomes at Norwich with 9. Coomb of Wheat. He returned about 5. o'clock this Evening, all well. He brought back half a Chldrn of Coal and a Box from Somersett, in which were two Cheese, some Pears &

Walnutts for Nancy & a Letter from my Sister Pounsett, in which she tells me that Mr. Frank Woodforde sent me the largest of the Cheese. We were glad to hear by it that all Friends were tolerably well. I take it kind of Mr. F. Woodforde. Ben brought me Guineas for my Wheat 9. 9. 0. . . .

Nov. 30, Saturday. . . . I sent Ben this morning on horseback round to the Farmers in my Parish to meet at my House on Tuesday next to pay their respective dues for Tythes for the Year 1793, and to dine. Ben returned to dinner, and very well, which pleased me. He never returned so sober before on any former Occasion of the same kind. . . .

Dec. 1, Sunday. . . . There was a fine Thrush singing in one of our plantations almost all the Day, as if Spring. Our Singers sung at Church to day & very well. . . .

Dec. 3, Tuesday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. This being my Tithe Audit, the following Gentlemen of my Parish dined & spent the Aft. and Evening at my House till after 12. o'clock. John Peachman, Stephen Andrews, Wm. Bidewell, James Pegg, John Buck Junr., John Norton, Robert Emeris, John Buck Senr., Mr. Mann Junr., Charles Hardy, Henry Case, Robert Rising, Willm. Howlett, John Culley, John Baker, Andrew Spraggs, John Heavers, Charles Cary, & Thomas Reynolds. A young Lady by name Miss Gordon a Clergymans Daughter about 19. Years of Age, who is on a Visit at Mr. Emeris's came with him this Morn' on a single Horse to my House, but before she could get off, one of my Greyhounds frightened her Horse, and threw her on the green in my Yard, but thank God broke no bone, but bruised her left Arm a good deal. We had her into the Study and gave her some Hartshorn and Water, and

after some little time recovered from her Fright. I asked [her] to dine with my Niece but she declined and rode home with Mr. Emeris. She appeared to be an agreeable young Lady. Recd. for Tithe to day about 213. 10. 0 [he had received about £30 the day before]. I gave them for Dinner, a Surloin of Beef roasted, a boiled Rump of Beef, a Leg of Mutton boiled, & Caper Sauce, a Couple of Rabbitts boiled & Onion Sauce, some Salt Fish boiled, four large plumb Puddings and one plain one. Apples after dinner by way of Desert. Punch, Wine, & strong Beer as much as they liked. John Piper, my Gardner also dined with them and he supped & slept here as Yesterday. There were six Bottles of Rum drank, four Bottles of Port Wine, & strong Beer unknown. They all left me at one in the Morning, very highly pleased with their Entertainment, and the only noisy one was John Norton, half crazy. To Stephen Andrews for Carr. of Coal pd. 0. 5. 0. To John Mann Junr., for ditto pd. 0. 10. 0. To Stephen Andrews also a Church Rate for the Year at 1/1, 16. 0. 0. pd. 0. 17. 4. To Willm. Howlett also for a Poor Rate from Lady Day to Michlms, at 14<sup>s</sup>, 30. 5. 0 pd. 1. 15. 3½. Recd. for New-College for Quit Rents 3. 4. 6. Recd. also of Henry Case for some Pease 0. 6. 0. Gave also as a free Gift to Thos. Reynolds for three Load of Marl had last Year 0. 5. 0. It was after two o'clock we got to bed. Upon the whole we had a very agreeable and pleasant Day of it, all things considered. N.B. Mr. Girling did not pay me any of his Composition but promised me very soon. Mr. Stoughton of Sparham's Tithe Audit was Yesterday. He very kindly sent me by Mr. Girlings Servant a very fine young Hare. Sent over Ben this Morning to Mattishall to enquire after Mr. Bodham, hearing by

John Piper that he had been taken very ill soon after visiting us last Week. Ben killed a Hare this Morn' which he found in the Camping-Pightle.

Dec. 4, Wednesday. . . . Had the Cramp this morning just before I got up which made me rise sooner than I intended. It soon went off after I got up. It was owing I believe to my drinking Punch Yesterday and also to the Weather being much colder. Recd. of Barnard Dunnell for Tithe 2. 2. 0. Recd. of Mary Pratt, Widow for Do. 2. 8. 0. Recd. of Sarah Greaves, Widow, for Do. 0. 10. 6. Gave Widow Greaves out of it 0. 2. 6, being a Widow and having two small Children. Both the Widows had Victuals & drink. Dinner to day boiled Beef & a Rabbit roasted. Took four more Pills this Evening going to bed as did Nancy also. Very heavy all day, by sitting up so late and drinking more than usual last Night, tho' not the least disguised by it.

Dec. 10, Tuesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mem. a Turnip taken this morning out of a six Acre Piece of mine, weighed 17. Pounds &  $\frac{1}{2}$ . I drove Nancy this Morning in my little Curricule being fine Weather, over to Mattishall, stayed an hour with our good Friends Mr. & Mrs. Bodham and then returned home to dinner. We found Mrs. Bodham very poorly in a bad cold, Mr. Bodham somewhat better, but still looks bad. The evening after Mr. Bodham had been at my house, he was taken very dangerously ill indeed quite deprived of Sense for some time. Every one thought that he would have died then. He has been rather better since that fit. In our way to Mattishall, we went to the late Mr. DuQuesnes at E. Tuddenham, and called on his old Maid, Mrs. England, who looked very well and ap-

peared very sorry for her late good Master. We did not get out of our Carriage being going farther. On our return home about 3. o'clock we found Mr. Sudbury with some of his Men in a Cart at my house, having brought home my new Tables. They dined upon some cold Meat at my house & had plenty of good Liquor. Their Horses also were properly taken care of. They left my House about 4. in the Afternoon, very well pleased. The new Tables are three in Number, all of the best Mohogany and new, the middle one is a very large one and very wide, the other two are half rounds, to add to the middle Table. I am to give for them seven Guineas. He took my two large Tables & smaller one in part of exchange for the others and he is to allow me for the three, only 2. 18. 0. Briton had one of the large ones for his Brother, and Betty had the smallest for her Father. Briton paid Sudbury for his 1. 0. 0. Betty paid ditto, for hers 0. 18. 0. During our being out also, Mr. Forster of Lenewade Bridge called at my House, to settle Accounts with me, my being from home, must take some other opportunity. Dinner to day, Giblet Soup & a nice Hare roasted. We had a very pleasant ride indeed to day.

Dec. 11, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Foster of Lenewade Bridge, my Landlord and also Miller, called on me this morning, and I settled Accounts with him for the Year, pd. him in all 20. 11. 0, that is, £17. 0<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup>, for Rent & £4 1<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup> for flour had of him in the Year—The Land Tax only deducted. Mr. Foster stayed with us till after one o'clock. Counsellor Cooper of Norwich it is said has failed, and owes to Government for Stamps above fourteen thousand Pounds &c. &c. Sent to old Tom Carr by his Wife 0. 1. 0. My Barometer



very low indeed this morning down to  $28 = 12$ . In the Evening down to  $28 = 10$ . My poor old Spanish Dog, by name Spring, was found this morning dead and stiff, under the hay Stack, worn out with age, being 14. Years old. He has looked very thin and poor some time. . . .

Dec. 14, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich with ten Coomb of Barley, he went away  $\frac{1}{4}$  before 4. I got up very early this Morning between two and three o'clock. Saw Ben set of for Norwich. Recd. for Butter this Morning at  $1^s/o^d$ , 3. 6. Ben did not return till after 5. o'clock this Evening. All safe & well thank God. Mr. Bloome sent me a Corn Note, for my Barley instead of Cash, he is to pay me  $16^s/o^d$ . pr. Coomb which makes the 10. Coomb 8. Pounds, a very great price indeed, also new Measure. It is the dearest Barley I ever sold I think, but it was very bright & good of the kind. . . .

Dec. 17, Tuesday. . . . My Maid Betty having complained much of late of bad Health, I sent her over in my little old Cart with Ben to Dr. Thornes at Mattishall. Mr. Cantrell of Lenewade Bridge called on me this morning and I paid him for Wine and Rum &c. at my late Tithe Frolic, the Sum of 3. 8. 0. Ben and Betty returned home between 5. and 6. o'clock this Afternoon. Mr. Thorne says that Betty's Complaint is a low, nervous fever, and that she must live tolerably well. She is to take a gentle Emetic to Morrow Morning an hour before breakfast in half a tea-cup of warm water, if it makes her very sick and she brings up any yellow, green &c. matter, she is then to take a little more warm water, and the other emetic Powder the morning following but if the first Emetic Powder does not make her the least sick, she is by no

means to take the second, but begin upon the Pills which he gave her, 5. of them three times a day, at 11. in the morning, at 4. in the Aft. & at bedtime. The Port Wine that I had given her for some days past, he said, did much more good than hurt—but living too low besides rather hurt her. She has abstained lately from Meat & Beer by my desire, as I was afraid that it might hurt her. Am well pleased however that I sent her to the Doctor which I should have done before had I known that she was worse than usual, which by meer chance I heard this morning by Nancy. I thought, as she did not complain to me, that she was brave & better by drinking Wine daily. To a poor Woman of Tuddenham for six nice white Chicken, Thorowgold by name pd. 0. 3. 0. Dinner to day, Leg of Pork boiled & a Peas Pudding.

Dec. 18, Wednesday. . . . Had three fine fat Turkeys killed this Morning to send to London to Morrow by the Coach. The heaviest weighed twelve Pound and half.

Dec. 19, Thursday. . . . Sent Briton early this morning in my little old Cart to Norwich with the Turkeys & four Letters. I sent one to Mr. Webb with one Turkey, another to Mr. Coujon with another Turkey. Nancy sent one to her Brother Sam with the other Turkey. Nancy also sent a long Letter by Briton to her Aunt J<sup>g</sup> Woodforde of Castle-Cary. Mr. Jeans with his eldest Daughter behind him on horseback called on us this morning and stayed an hour with us. Mr. Jeans paid me for the bushel of Apples I paid for him to Richmond 0. 3. 0. N.B. I paid Richmond for them 3/6. Briton returned between 5. and 6., all well &c. The Turkeys were much admired at Norwich. They went by the Mail Coach for London this Aft. Dinner to day rost Beef &c.

Dec. 21, Saturday. . . . Nancy with me was busy great part of the Morn' in making some Pills, made of Castile Soap, Rhubarb grated and Oil of Marsh-Mallows which are reckoned very good for bilious complaints. Mr. Hardy got our Ipswich Paper for us to day. Though this is St. Thomas's Day, the poor People did not go about to collect their usual gifts against Christmas being Saturday, the farmers of the Parish being mostly at Norwich Market, therefore changed this Day till Monday next. Dinner to day, boiled Rabbitt & a very nice Goose roasted.

Dec. 23, Monday. . . . To poor People of Weston against Xmas gave this morning instead of St. Thomas Day 1. 10. 6. Dinner to day boiled Pork & Veal &c. A most delightful Day for the poor People going about, thank God Almighty for it.

Dec. 24, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Girling sent us this Aft. a brace of Snipes. N.B. Mr. Girling promised me at my Audit that he would call on me in a day or two after, & pay me for Tithe, but he has not even yet. His Composition for Tithe is £44. 10<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup>.

Dec. 25, Wednesday also Christmas Day. We break-fasted, dined, &c. again at home. This being Christmas Day I walked to Church this morning, read Prayers and administered the Holy Sacrament, gave for an Offering 0. 2. 6. Had a very respectable Appearance at the Altar to partake with me of the H. Sacrament, 2. Rails. The Singers sang the Christmas Anthem and very well, between the Litany & Communion. The following poor People dined at my House or had their Dinner sent them & one Shilling each—Widow Case, my Clerk Tom Thurston, Christopher Dunnell, John Peachman, Tom Carr and Nathaniel Heavers. Nat. Heavers & Tom Carr had their Dinners sent them

being ill. Gave to the above People in all o. 6. o. Dinner to day, a boiled Rabbit and Onion Sauce, Surloin of Beef roasted, plumb Puddings and Mince Pies.

Dec. 26, Thursday. . . . To Weston Singers gave this Morn' o. 5. o. To Tom Short, my Wheel-wrights Man o. 1. o. To Stephen Drewe, my Butchers Man o. 1. o. To Joseph Edwards, my Malstors Man o. 1. o. To Charles Wibley, my Blacksmiths Man o. 1. o. . . .

Dec. 29, Sunday. . . . Recd. a Letter this Morning from Mr. Webb of London (by John Bates's Son of Lene-wade Bridge who had it of Sr. Lambert Blackwells Servant of Easton, but had of Bacon, Norwich). Mr. Webb was highly pleased with the fine Turkey we sent them, they had it for dinner on Christmas Day. Miss Webb and Miss Hussey both at home to partake of it. Mr. and Mrs. Way sent their Compts to us. I read Prayers & Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church. The Singers sung. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted &c. Betty's Father dined here to day tho' late.

#### Anno Domini 1794.

Jan. 1st, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. This Year began with a very sharp Frost, and tho' very cold, yet very pleasant as the Sun was very bright and no Wind. Dinner to day Neck of Pork roasted &c. New Moon at Midnight.

Jan. 5, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. I read Prayers & Preached this Morn' at Weston Ch. It was charming walking this Morn' so very calm. A much pleasanter day than Yesterday. Dinner to day a very fine fat Turkey Cock roasted. Weston Singers at Church this Morn' & sung.

Jan. 7, Tuesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at

home. Paid my Servants this Morning their Wages as follows, due Janry. 5th, 1794. To Benjamin Leggatt 10. 0. 0. To Bretingham Scurll 8. 0. 0. To Eliz. Dade 5. 5. 0. To Mary Woods, only one Quarter due 1. 6. 6. To Timothy Tooley 2. 2. 0. Dinner to day boiled Pork & Greens & a Duck roasted.

Jan. 8, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Very cold all day but nevertheless cheery. Poor old Tom Carr I heard the first thing this morning died in the last night, I hope poor Soul that he is happy. Dinner to day, rost Beef &c. Hungate Lodge we heard this morning was attempted to be broken open a Night or two ago.

Jan. 11, Saturday. . . . Briton went early this Morning to Norwich on foot after my News &c., he returned soon after four o'clock this Afternoon with the same. No Letter whatever from any Person, we rather expected one from Nancy's Brother Saml. after sending a Letter to him with a fine Turkey in December.—As the others that we sent at the same time and of which we received proper notice with kind acknowledgements, I much wonder that Saml. has not done the same, but &c. Briton was thoroughly jaded when he arrived. I would have had him rode, but he would not. The News-papers announce things rather unpleasant.<sup>1</sup>

Jan. 12, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached, and buried poor old Tom Kerr, aged 76. this Afternoon. Had a very respectable Congregation at Church. I found it extremely cold returning from Church after being so long at Church & so much exposed. It almost took away my breath on returning. Almost all People complained of the cold. A severe black Frost this

<sup>1</sup> See the entry for January 18 following.



morning and cloudy. Dinner to day, a boiled Chicken, Pork & Greens &c.

Jan. 17, Friday. . . . Mr. Girling called on me this morning and paid his Composition for Tithe last Year 44. 16. 0. Dinner to day, Odds and Ends. Mr. Jeans on horseback with his Daughter behind him, made us a morning Visit.

Jan. 18, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich with ten Coomb of Wheat to Mr. Bloomes. Ben returned about 5. o'clock this Afternoon. He sold my Wheat at 22<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>. per Coomb, but did not bring home the money, only a Note, according to my order as I owe Bloome for Coal. All safe & well returned home thank God. No Letters from either Town or Country. Dinner to day, Beef Steaks &c. No good News, the French rather victorious. Toulon retaken by the French Republicans.<sup>1</sup>

Jan. 19, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. I read Prayers & Preached this Morn', only few being there. Dinner to day, Breast of Veal roasted &c. Nancy made me very uneasy this Afternoon and does very often, by complaining of the dismal Situation of my House, nothing to be seen, and little or no visiting, or being visited &c. If we have of late lost our best Friends, by the removal of Mr. Custance's Family to Bath, and the Death of Mr. DuQuesne, must it not be affected by me as well as her? In short my Place has been too dull for her I am sorry to say for many Years.—As things are so—infœlix!

Jan. 20, Monday. . . . Nancy's fat Pig killed this morn-

<sup>1</sup> Toulon had been surrendered by the French Royalists to the British and Spanish, in the summer of 1793. In the Autumn it was besieged by the Republican forces, and mainly through the genius of Bonaparte—who here first distinguished himself—was captured in mid-December. Parson Woodforde gets the news rather later than usual in this case.

ing by Thos. Thurston, it weighed eleven Stone. . . . Briton had leave to stay all Night at Billy Bidewells, he having Company this Evening. I sent by Briton a Basket of Apples to B. Bidewell.

Jan. 21, Tuesday. . . . Settled Accounts with Nancy this morning for the last Year, and paid her in Cash 9. 19. 6. Nancy's Pigg came to at 3/6 per Stone 1. 18. 6. Dinner to day Pork Griskins & a Goose roasted &c. I have not slept very well of late, generally wake about 3. in the Morn' and cannot get to sleep again till after six.

Jan. 22, Wednesday. . . . Had but an indifferent Night of Sleep again. Gave Betty Leave to go and see her friends at Mattishall this Morning & stay out two Nights. Ben carried her over in my little old Cart. I also gave her a Basket of Apples to carry home. Britons Aunt Pescod with Billy Bidewell called here this Morning & walked over my Garden &c. I sent her out a Biscuit and some Wine. Dinner to day, rost Pork &c.

Jan. 24, Friday. . . . Betty returned home before dinner. . . . Poor Mr. Bodham (Betty says) has been taken very bad again. I am afraid that he is not long for this World.—Pray God bless him.

Jan. 25, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. About Noon very high Wind indeed with some Snow. Barometer very low down to 28—7. I don't know that I ever saw it lower. Sent Briton to Norwich after News &c. he went in my little old Cart, and returned in very good time before 4. this Afternoon. A terrible Journey he had back, so very rough Wind, with Snow and intensely cold. He said, it almost took away his breath. Mem.—The Barometer about 4. o'clock this Afternoon was down to 28—4, the lowest

I ever remembered. The Wind so high that it greatly alarmed us. Part of my Barn uncovered by it, Thatch blown off, Many Tiles from my House blown down &c. Pray God: preserve all that are exposed to it particularly all poor Souls on board Ships. Dinner to day a Couple of Rabbits boiled and Onion Sauce, some beef Steakes &c. But the Wind was so very tempestuous at dinner time, that we made a very poor dinner. The Wind rather somewhat abated towards the Evening but still very high. Glass rather rose. I sat up in my Study the whole Night.

Jan. 27, Monday. . . . Had but a very indifferent night of Sleep, having the Cramp in both feet great part of the Night owing I apprehend to the extreme cold Weather as it froze very sharp within doors last night. Very much indisposed all the Day, appetite very bad indeed, and Spirits greatly depressed for want of more natural rest. The last two Nights deprivation of Sleep, have much unhinged me. Dinner to day, boiled Tongue and Mashed potatoes and some rost Pork &c. Exceeding cold all day, froze within doors all the Day. The present severe cold Weather pinches me greatly. It snowed all the Morning but it was very small. Afternoon mostly clear but intensely cold indeed. Parliament met on Tuesday last January 21. Kings Speech very good and spirited one. Mr. Pitt 218—Majority in the House of Commons. I did not hear of any great damage being done by the High Wind Saturday, thanks to God for it.

Jan. 28, Tuesday. . . . Thank God! had some tolerable Sleep last Night. Very severe frost indeed, freezes sharp within doors and bitter cold it is now. Two Women froze to death Saturday last going from Norwich Market to their home. . . .

Jan. 30, Thursday. . . . Had a very indifferent Night of sleep scarce any at all. Recd. of my Butcher for Tallow at 3<sup>d</sup> per lb. o. 2. 9. A Frost again but not so sharp as Yesterday. It did not freeze within doors last Night. Recd. for Butter this Evening at 1<sup>s</sup>/o<sup>d</sup>, o. 2. 6. It froze also in the Afternoon, and the Barometer still rising, but in the Evening it thawed and some Rain fell. I was saying before dinner that there would be alteration of Weather soon as I a long time observed one of our Cats wash over both her Ears—an old observation and now I must believe it to be a pretty true one. Dinner to day Peas Soup & rost Neck of Pork &c. Ben went out a tracing for a Hare this morning before breakfast, found one, and killed it, but the Greyhounds had eat full half of it, before Ben could get up to beat them off. After breakfast Ben & Briton went out a tracing till dinner time and they brought home a brace of fine Hares.

Jan. 31, Friday. . . . A great many Rats & Mice killed in the Barn this morning by the Dogs in moving the Wheat. Thank God! slept very well last Night and got up this Morning much better than of late. It was quite mild to day to what it has been. Dinner to day rost Beef &c.

Feb. 2, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached, and church'd a poor Woman by name Beales this Afternoon at Weston Church. I returned the churching fee. Nancy made me very uneasy this Morning as well as Yesterday Afternoon by her saucy tongue, and afterwards turning sulky. . . .

Feb. 6, Thursday. . . . Mr. Foster of Lenewade Bridge made us a long Morning Visit from 12. till almost two. Dinner to day boiled beef & a rost Hare again. Mr. Foster sent me in the Afternoon a Poem called the

Gamiad, very severe on Mr. Coke of this County, by an Officer, concerning Game. Gave the Boy that brought the Book from Mr. Foster o<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup>.

Feb. 8, Saturday. . . . A Man out of Suffolk, by name Southgate, called here this morning, with a Box at his Back, in which was contained, a wonderful birth of his Wife's, a Child with two distinct perfect Heads, preserved in Spirits, of the female kind. It died almost immediately on its birth. I gave the Man for showing it o. 1. o. The Man's Wife is still living & travelling about. . . .

Feb. 9, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers & Preached this Aft. at Weston C. Miss Woodforde Walked to Church being fine Weather. Mr. Custance is expected at Weston on Tuesday. . . .

Feb. 10, Monday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Between 11. and 12. o'clock this morning we took a Walk to Hungate Lodge, and paid our respects to Mr. and Mrs. Carbould, who came there to reside on Thursday last and were married that Morning at Talcolneston by Mrs. Carbould's Father the Revd. Mr. Warren,<sup>1</sup> and was the first time of our ever seeing either of them. They behaved very friendly to us as well as politely and appear to be very agreeable, pleasant People. We were treated with Chocolate & Wedding Cake. Mr. Carbould is a Clergyman <sup>2</sup> and Son of a Mr. Carbould, many Years an Hatter at Norwich of whom I have had many a Hat. He has retired from business about 5. or 6. Years, and with a fortune of at

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Warren, Rector of Talcolneston from 1764-96 and of Tasburgh from 1757-97.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Carbould or Corbould shortly takes Parson Woodforde's services for him, as we shall see; but he had no parish of his own in Norfolk during the Diarist's lifetime.



least 15. Thousand Pound. He has only two Children one Son & one Daughter. We called on Mrs. Peachman as we went there. Paid my Butcher (Billy Stoughton) this morning his Quarterly Bill for Meat the Sum of 10. 8. 6. The roads were very dry, but the Wind very rough indeed as we went to Mr. Carboulds this morning and likewise on our return home.

Feb. 11, Tuesday. . . . To 7. Yards of Cotton a mixed Colour of black, purple and Green, for a morning Gown for myself, this Morning of Aldridge at 2<sup>s</sup>/2<sup>d</sup>. per Yrd. pd. o. 15. 2. Of Ditto for 7. Yrds of white Cotton for a lining to the above at 1<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup> per Yard, pd. o. 7. 0. Of Ditto, for a Pr. of Castle-Cary Stockings pd. o. 5. 0. Dinner to day, Leg of Pork boiled & Peas Pudding. Mr. Custance arrived at Weston House this Aft. from Bath, after being absent almost a whole Year. I sent to enquire for him in the Evening. To a poor Man of N. Tuddenham out of work and a very cleanly old Man, gave this Morn' o. o. 6.

Feb. 12, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Custance very kindly made us a morning Visit and stayed with us more than an Hour. He was in high Spirits & appeared happy to be again at Weston. But he looked very thin. . . .

Feb. 14, Friday. . . . This being Valentines Day, I gave to the Children of my Parish that came to my House this morning under fourteen Years of Age and could walk and talk, to each gave a penny and I gave in all 53. of them o. 4. 5. Mr. Carbould gave one halfpenny to each. Dinner to day boiled Pork & Greens & a Suet Pudding. There was a total Eclipse of the Moon this Evening. It begun about 8. o'clock and did not end till 12. But it being very cloudy could not see anything at all of it.

Feb. 15, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to

Norwich with 7. Coomb of Wheat to Mr. Bloome's. Ben returned about 5. o'clock this Afternoon. Mr. Bloome is to give  $22^s/6^d$ . or  $22^s/0^d$  per Coomb for my Wheat. Nancy by him received a Letter from her Brother Saml. in London acknowledging the receiving the Turkey & her Letter in December last. He gave it to Capt. Squire. Ben brought back 1. Dozen of red-wood Deals. Stephen Andrew's Man one John Filby a very young Man coming back from Norwich to day with an empty Waggon, falling under it was run over by it at Easton and very much hurt but no Bones broke. It went over his Body.

Feb. 19, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Custance made us a Morning Visit, after calling on Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, and during his being here, Mr. and Mrs. Carbould with a Miss Carbould, Sister to Mr. Carbould (an agreeable young Lady) made us their first Visit, and stayed with us about an Hour. They drank a dish of Chocolate, all but Mr. Custance, who went before the Chocolate was brought in. Mrs. Carbould was dressed very fashionably. Miss Carbould in an habit as she came riding single. Mr. & Mrs. Carbould came in a very elegant Gig indeed with a very good horse in it. Mr. Girling's Shepherd (Chubbeck) dined with our People in Kitchen, having Sheep to attend in one of my Fields near my House. Dinner to day boiled Beef & a Suet Pudding &c. Mr. Custance is much pleased with Mr. and Mrs. Carbould.

Feb. 20, Thursday. . . . To Bagshaw who travels about the Country with Goods in a Cart, paid him this morning for 9. Yards of flannel at  $1^s/6$  per Yard o. 13. 6. To Ditto, for 7. Yrds. of Huccaback at  $1/3^d$ , pd. o. 8. 9. To Do. for 2. Quires of writing Paper, called Fool's-cap, at  $10^d$ . per Quire, pd. o. 1. 8. . . .

- Feb. 23, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers & Preached this Afternoon at Weston-Church which was very full of People. Mattishall Singers were at Church and sung exceedingly well, attended with a bass-Viol and an Hautboy—Betty's Father was one of them. Mr. Custance at Church, as were also the new Bride Mrs. Carbould & her Sister in law Miss Carbould, they sat in my Seat in the Chancel, also their Servant Maid sat in my Servants Seat. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c.
- Feb. 24, Monday. . . . Girling's Sheep finished my Turnips & had home. The Turnips were valued at 50<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup> per acre and two acres and half for which Girling owes me £6 5<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup>, which with being fed off with Sheep, I value at altogether worth 7. 10. 0.
- Feb. 25, Thursday. . . . Busy part of the time before dinner in trimming up my firs, and was wet by Rain.
- Feb. 28, Friday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. I read Prayers this Morning at Weston Church being a day appointed for a public Fast to be observed throughout England, to implore the Almighty's Protection from our Enemies. Mr. Custance was at Church this Morn' tho' wet. A large Congregation also attended Divine Service. There was no Sermon. Dinner to day Salt Fish & Parnsips &c.
- March 1, Saturday. . . . Busy in trimming up my Trees &c. again this Morn'. The bleeding Piles were strong on me to day and have been some few days past. They make one rather low for the time, but are reckoned salutary. My Father had them often, as also had my late Brother H. . . .
- March 2, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers & Preached this Morning at Weston Ch. Mr. Custance at Church, tho' a very wet Morning. Recd. for publishing banns

of Matrimony between one George Kerr and Deborah Roberts, the former a Widower and the latter a Widow o. 2. 6. A very small Congregation at Church being very wet. Nancy had a Letter from Jenny Pounsett brought from Norwich by Mr. Girlings Family. The principal News was the Marriage of Miss Dalton to Mr. Webb of Roundhill near Bruton. Dinner to day, boiled Skaite & rost Beef.

March 4, Tuesday. . . . Gave Case's Son Robt. about 5. Years old who was threshing in my Barn with his Father o. 6. . . .

March 5, Wednesday. . . . It being a pleasant & mild morning I drove over to Sparham and made Mr. Stoughton a Visit, stayed with him about an hour and returned home to dinner. Found the roads exceeding bad indeed and full of Water, so much Rain falling on Sunday and Monday last. I had my new Horse, Rodney, which was never in my new Cart before, to Sparham & Briton with me. The Horse did not please me so well as expected but however very gentle, not used to be curbed I suppose made him not so tractable.

March 7, Friday. . . . Paid Robert Buck of Honingham for his Father a blacksmith for Iron-Work done to Cart &c. o. 16. o. Nancy drove out Rodney in the new Cart this Morning by way of an airing. Briton with her. I took a walk this morning by myself to Weston House to see Mr. Custance, but he being rode out I walked on to Mr. Jeans at Witchingham, and in my walk there, I called at Mr. Fosters at Lenewade Bridge and spent about half an hour there with him, his Wife, her Mother Mrs. Chambers, and I think her Sister. Got to Mr. Jeans about 1. o'clock, stayed abt. an hour with Mr. & Mrs. Jeans, & returned back to Weston-House about half past two, saw Mr. Custance and

chatted with him about half an hour and then returned home to dinner. Saw Mr. and Mrs. Copland at Mr. Jeans. At Betty Cary's Shop this Evening for things pd. o. 1. o. Had 2. Tubbs of Geneva brought me this Evening by Moonshine, 4. Gallons each Tub. Sent a Note this Evening to Mr. Carbould at Hungate Lodge to invite him, Mrs. Carbould & Miss Carbould to dinner on Wednesday next. Recd. a Note back that they would wait on us. Note shockingly bad wrote.

March 8, Saturday. . . . Busy this morning in bottling off Moonshine. . . .

March 12, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. Mr. Custance, Mr. Jeans, Mr. Carbould and his brother in law a Mr. Warren a Clergyman,<sup>1</sup> and Mr. Stoughton of Sparham dined & spent the Afternoon with us. The Rain prevented Mrs. Carbould and her Sister in law Miss Carbould from coming. They were dressed and ready to come if the Rain abated, they were greatly disappointed. We were very sorry that we could not see them. We had for Dinner some Skaite, Ham & Fowls, a whole Rump of Beef boiled &c., a fine Hen Turkey roasted, Nancy's Pudding & Currant Jelly, Lobsters, Bullace & Apple Tarts, Cheese with Radishes & Cresses. We dined in the Study & drank Coffee & Tea in the Parlour. After Coffee Mr. Custance, Mr. Carbould, Nancy & self played one Pool at Quadrille, lost 1<sup>s</sup>/o<sup>d</sup>. Mr. Jeans & Mr. Stoughton took french leave <sup>2</sup> of us after we sat down to Cards. Mr. Custance, Mr. Carbould & Mr. Warren went

<sup>1</sup> Presumably John Warren who succeeded his father at Talconeston in 1796 and was Rector there till 1824.

<sup>2</sup> The phrase *French Leave*, according to the *N.E.D.*, was derived from the custom prevalent in France in the eighteenth century of going away from a reception without taking leave of the host or hostess. Apparently the original object was not to disturb the rest of the company.



away a little before 9. It was a fine and Moon-light Night but cold.

March 13, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. At Noon took a Walk to Weston Church and buried a poor Girl of Willm. Bushall, aged 15. Years. She had been an Idiot almost from her Cradle and being often out of doors, was in continual danger of being run over by Carriages or Horses, living on an open Green called Oldham-Green. The poor creature had been ill near a twelve month before it died. It must be a pleasure to her friends instead of grief, that her removal from hence must be happy in a future state—And pray God grant it so to be. Mr. Custance liking much some Cheese Yesterday at dinner that came from Mr. Pounsetts at Cole I sent him up this Evening a Quarter of the Cheese. Dinner to day, odds and ends of Yesterday.

March 17, Monday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Carbould, Miss Carbould and a little boy by name Longdale a relation of Mr. Carboulds made us a morning Visit. I was in my Garden. They stayed with us about an hour, took a walk round my Garden being pleasant Weather, eat a dried Apple apiece, and then walked back to Hungate Lodge. They were very neatly dressed. Dinner to day, odds and Ends.

March 20, Thursday. . . . Busy most part of the morning in trimming my Firs in my small Plantations next the road.

March 24, Monday. . . . Sent Ben, early this morning to old Mr. Gould's of Swannington, after a Horse, upon trial in my little Cart, he having lately given me a very favourable Account of him as one that would do in the place of Rodney which is gone blind. Ben returned with the Horse before breakfast; on liking the Appear-

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ance of him, after breakfast I drove him out in my Curricl and taking Nancy with me, we went to Mr. Jeans at Witchingham, stayed there upwards of an hour and then returned home, much pleased with the Horse. I am to give Gould for the Horse 15. Guineas if I liked him on trial. He is of a dark Chesnut Colour, very compact make, of the Suffolk kind, short body, handsome forehand, just the height for our little Curricl, hog mane, short dock Tail, and the only blemish in him, is a bone Spavin in the off hind Leg, which at present is by no means bad, he goes a little limping at first setting out. His Age I apprehend to be about 8. Years. His Name is Punch. Nancy likes him very much. Both Mr. & Mrs. Jeans were at home & glad to see us. Briton went with us on foot. I walked however some of the way there and back again. I could not spare another Horse being busy in plowing and Rodney gone to Goulds to supply Punchs place. I sent Ben this Evening after Rodney to Goulds and to let him know that I liked his Horse very well and that he would call on me the first Opportunity and I would pay him for the horse. Dinner to day, boiled beef &c.

March 26, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Custance made us a Morning Visit. Old Mr. Gould called on me this Morning and I paid him for the horse lately had of him, the Sum of fifteen Guineas 15. 15. 0. Gave also to him for his Man, being usual 0. 1. 0. Soon after Mr. Custance left us, we took a Walk to Hungate Lodge and made Mr. & Mrs. Carbould and Miss Carbould a Morning Visit, returned home to Dinner. Mr. Carbould we met as we were going to Hungate-Lodge, he being going to Weston House. Mrs. Carbould & Miss, were gone to Mr. Peachmans but they

soon returned, and Mr. Carbould soon joined us from his return to Weston House. Mr., Mrs., & Miss Carbould walked part of the way back with us, it being a most delightful, pleasant day. Sent Mr. Carbould some Colli-flower Brocoli this Even' he having little or no Garden-stuff at present. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c.

April 3, Thursday. . . . Richmond's Goose that we bought some Years ago brought forth 13. Goslings from 13. Eggs.

April 4, Friday. . . . Nancy breackfasted, dined &c. again at home. About 11. o'clock this Morning it turned out quite tempestuous Weather, very high W.N.W. Wind with much Rain and so continued till after 2. o'clock, the Wind & Rain somewhat abated then. We were both to have dined at Mr. Corboulds but the Weather being so very unfavourable, my Niece could not go. I walked about 3. o'clock and there dined with Mr. & Mrs. Carbould, Mr. Stoughton, a Mr. Aufrere a young Clergyman of Hofton, and a Master Longdale, related to Mr. Carbould. We had for Dinner, Codfish & Shrimp Sauce, Pea-Soup, Fillett of Veal roasted & boiled Tongue, Mutton Steaks, frilled oysters, Currant & plain Puddings, a green Goose roasted, Maccaroni &c. The first Cucumber this Year I saw at Hungate-Lodge. Mr. Custance sent it them Yesterday. Desert, plenty of fine Oranges, Apples, & Almonds & Raisins. Everything in very elegant & handsome Taste, all new Rooms also very genteelly & fashionably furnished. We had Coffee and Tea very late near 8. by my Watch. After Coffee I took my leave and walked home & it being darkish & rather wet, I had one of Mr. Carbould's Servants walk with me part of the way with a Lantern. I gave the

Servant on leaving me 0. 1. 0. Got home about 9. o'clock.

April 5, Saturday. . . . By advertisement on Crouse's Norwich Paper, to day, there is to be a general Meeting of the County of Norfolk on Saturday next, concerning a general free Subscription for the raising of Troops for the internal defence of this Kingdom at the present Crisis.

April 7, Monday. . . . Mr. & Mrs. Carbould are gone out for a few Days to make a Wedding Visit to Mrs. Corboulds Brother at Castor near Yarmouth, a Gentleman Farmer.

April 11, Friday. . . . One of my Greyhounds, young Fly, got to Betty Cary's this morning and ran away with a Shoulder of Mutton undressed & eat it all up. They made great lamentation & work about it. I had the Greyhound hanged in the Evening. . . .

April 12, Saturday. . . . Newspapers brought by Bidewells People. A County Meeting held to day at Norwich concerning voluntary contributions for the internal defence of the Country in the present Crisis in case of a french Invasion, or any Riots &c. I did not go to it, neither did Mr. Custance.<sup>1</sup>

April 15, Tuesday. . . . Aldridge called here this Morning, and I bought of him 4. Yards of coarse long-lawn for night Handkerchiefs, at 3<sup>s</sup>/6<sup>d</sup> per Yard, paid him for it 0. 14. 0, 4. Yards make exactly five Handkerchiefs. Nancy bought of him 8. Yards of Muslin for a Gown at 2<sup>s</sup>/2<sup>d</sup> per Yard, very cheap. She paid for it

<sup>1</sup> It is noteworthy that easy-going Tories like Parson Woodforde and Mr. Custance did not support this movement for raising troops to defend England against internal disorders and possible invasion. Perhaps they sympathized with Coke of Norfolk, the stout Whig, who broke up the meeting. Elsewhere these meetings were a success. (See Holland Rose, *William Pitt and the Great War*, pp. 188-9.)

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o. 17. 4. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Veal roasted &c. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould called on us this Afternoon and drank Coffee and Tea with us, Master Vincent Lonsdale, was with them. They left us about 8 o'clock rather before than after, we walked part of the way back with them, they came to us walking.

April 17, Thursday. . . . Dalliday, who used to go about with fish, has lately taken up the same business again. He brings very good fish and moderate in his charge.

April 20, Easter Day. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. I read Prayers and administered the H. Sacrament this morning at Weston Church being Easter-Day. I gave for an Offering at the Altar o. 2. 6. Mrs. Carbould & my Niece at Church & at the Sacrament. Mr. Custance was not at Church to day at Weston. About 26. Communicants I had this Morning. Dinner to day, Loin of Veal roasted &c. A most heavenly Day, thank God for it.

April 21, E. Monday. . . . Cow, Nantz, had a Bull-Calf this morning. To Ben, for divers things, pd. this morning o. 14. 7½. To Betty, for ditto pd. ditto o. 15. 6½. To Briton, for ditto pd. do o. 4. 4½. At 3. o'clock I took a Walk with Nancy to Hungate Lodge and there dined & spent the Afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, Miss Corbould, Mr. Eaton, a Mr. Sutcliffe a young Clergyman of Norwich, Mr. and Mrs. Howman<sup>1</sup> of Hockering, & Master Lonsdale. We returned home as we went, by nine o'clock. We spent a very agreeable Day at Hungate Lodge Mr. & Mrs. Corbould & Miss, very agreeable People. We had for dinner, Cod-fish rather stale & Smelts, part of a Rump

<sup>1</sup> Roger Freston Howman, Rector of Bergh near Mattishall with Hockering 1787-1821.



of Beef boiled very good, Gravey Soup, beef Stakes in paste, Veal Cutlets, a green Goose & gooseberry Sauce, Hind Qr. Lamb roasted & Orange Pudding. Desert, Oranges, Apples, Almonds & Raisins.

April 22, E. Tuesday. . . . Hearing Yesterday that Mr. Mellish, who succeeded Mr. DuQuesne was come to reside at Tuddenham, I drove over to the old House and paid my respects to him this morning, stayed about half an Hour with him and returned home to dinner. Mr. Mellish is quite a young Man, fair with flaxen hair, rather short & lisps, very much of the true Gentleman in his behaviour.<sup>1</sup> There was another young Clergyman with him who was on a Visit for a few days there. In my return home I called at Mr. Corboulds and took up my Niece who was there. Dinner to day boiled beef & mince Veal &c.

April 23, Wednesday. . . . It being a very fine pleasant Morning I drove my Niece over to Mattishall to Mr. Bodhams and made them a long Visit, but we returned home to dinner. Mr. Bodham is I think better, but worse than ever with regard to his temper, for ever scolding & finding fault.

April 26, Saturday. . . . I got up very early this Morning and wrote a Letter to my Sister Pounsett in answer to hers, and at 9. sent Ben to Norwich with it, to put it into the Post-Office, & to bring back News &c. About 1. o'clock, the new Clergyman at East-Tuddenham, made me a Morning Visit, a Mr. Mellish, in return for mine to him. Ben returned home about 4. o'clock. No Letters. Dinner to day, Beef Steaks &c.

April 27, Sunday. . . . Most delightful Weather indeed thank God for it. Everything very forward in the

<sup>1</sup> Edward Mellish, Vicar of Honingham with East Tuddenham 1794-1831.

Garden. Gooseberries fit for Tarts, and everything else forward in proportion.

April 28, Monday. . . . Had the great Oaken Tree in the Barn Pightles taken down & barked, a very fine Tree it is—I dare say, full two Ton in the whole. Dinner to day, rost Beef &c. To Will. Large & J<sup>n</sup> Heavers who asked me for something to drink, as they are barking some Trees for me and they say is customary, gave them o. 1. o.

April 29, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Foster of Lenewade-Bridge & with him a Clark of a Mr. Dugmore of Swaffham, a Land-Surveyor, who is going to measure out the College-Land in Weston &c. called on me this morning but did not walk in. I showed them the College-Lands in my hands. I asked them to dine with me, but they declined. Dinner to day, boiled beef & Neck Veal roasted &c.

May 1, Thursday. . . . To James Pegg this Morning, paid a Qrs. Land-Taxes and half a Year for other Taxes, in all 7. 10. 3. I gave him a ten Pound Bank-Note of Gurneys of Norwich and he returned me in Cash 2. 9. 9. Mr. Custance sent us half a Dozen Pigeons by the Son of Knights, to whom I gave 1. o.

May 5, Monday. . . . At twelve we took a Walk to Weston House and spent an agreeable hour with him [Mr. Custance]. He walked over his Garden with us. We carried him a Couple of Dozen of our small Cakes, as he is fond of them. He walked great part of the way with us on our return.

May 6, Tuesday. . . . In the Evening we took a Walk to Mr. Corbould's and drank Coffee & Tea with him & his wife, after that we played a Pool of Quadrille & returned home to Supper. Nancy lost at Quadrille 6<sup>d</sup>.

May 8, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at

home. Dinner to day, Loin of Mutton roasted &c. A most gracious Rain almost all the Afternoon.

May 10, Saturday. . . . I took a Walk this morning to Odham Green and called on Bowles's Wife who is very bad indeed having a kind of fever on the brain, her head continually distracted, Dr. Thorne can do nothing for her till her head is better. I read Prayers by her. Dinner to day beef Steaks & Gooseberry Pye. Billy Bidewells Folks brought our Newspapers. Mr. Peachman is broke all to nothing at all. He went off last Sunday & has not been here since. It is an Event that has long been suspected to happen.

May 13, Tuesday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Corbould drank Coffee & Tea with us in the Afternoon & played a Rubber of Whist at which Nancy & self lost each of us 0. 1. 6. They left us between 8. and 9. in the Evening. My old Tree in the Garden, a Witch-Elm was begun cutting down this Morning & was cut down before Night. It shaded the Garden so very much and so near the Shrubs, that it did not by any means, well.

May 14, Wednesday. We breakfasted, and spent part of the Morning at home, about 11. o'clock I drove Nancy in my little Curricule to Norwich, and we got thither about 12 o'clock after a very pleasant ride, Briton went on horseback with us, put up ourselves and horses at the Kings-head in the Market-Place, our old Inn and there we dined supped and slept. Briton went with us on the Mare, Jenny. In the Evening we went to the Theatre and saw acted a Comedy called the School for Wives. The Entertainment, Midas, a very good house. It was for the benefit of one Jackson. The Song of God save the King was sung with great Glee. We did not return to our Inn till 11. o'clock. Dinner to day, fresh Salmon & Veal Cutlets &c. It was so hot at the

Theatre, that Nancy was quite ill on her return to the Inn, could eat nothing for Supper. Soon after we got to Norwich, I walked about the City and paid many Bills that I owed, viz. To Lock, Timber-Merchant, pd. 1. 3. 0. To Sudbury, Upholsterer, pd. 5. 7. 0. To Forster, Taylor, pd. 4. 9. 6. To Bacon, Bookseller, pd. 0. 16. 3. To Priest, Wine-Merchant, pd. 2. 4. 0. To Steward, Attorney, pd. 6. 7. 1½. To Buckle, Ironmonger, pd. 0. 9. 6. For two Box Tickets for the Play, pd. 0. 6. 0. Gave Briton also to go to the Play 0. 1. 0. To Ratifee-Cakes 2. oz, of Blacks, pd. 0. 0. 3. We called on both the Priests Families, this Morning. To Rum & Water at the White Hart, pd. 0. 0. 3.

May 15, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. at the Kings Head. I got up very early this Morning between four and 5. o'clock, and saw a Regiment of Militia March out of Town, the South-Lincoln. After breakfast, I walked out with Nancy to Miss Brownes to see the Fashions. Gave Nancy a very handsome Sash &c. paid for the same, 0. 18. 0. Mr. Bloome waited on me this morning at the Kings Head and we settled Accounts together. I paid him for Coals & Oats 16. 2. 0. And I recd. of him for Corn 49. 16. 6. So that I recd. on the balance 33. 14. 6. After that I walked about by myself & pd. more Bills. To Smith, Mercer, pd. 8. 4. 0. To Frank, Barber, for a Wigg. pd. 1. 1. 0. To Mrs. Brewster, Haberdasher, pd. 3. 10. 6. To Manning, Brazier, pd. 0. 4. 6. To Willmott, Hatter, pd. 0. 19. 6. Nancy bought her a pretty Hat suitable to the Sash.

May 16, Friday. We breakfasted & spent the Morning at Norwich. I got up again very early this morning to see some more Soldiers march out of Town. At Graham's Shop for a pr. of black Silk Stockings and changing

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another pair that I bought there last Year which did not fit me, pd. o. 16. o. To 4. pair of white worsted Gauze Do., pd. o. 7. 4. To divers trifling things & given away abt. o. 1. o. At Nosworthy's for some shaving Soap &c. pd. o. 2. o. A Regiment of the Leicester Militia we saw March into Town about Noon from Yarmouth very much fatigued indeed, being a long March. Soon after they were balloted, we ordered our Carriage and sat off for Weston. Got home thank God! safe & well & in good Spirits by four o'clock this Aft. & there dined on some cold Fore Qr. of Lamb, supped & slept at home. Paid at the Kings Head for ourselves and Horses two Nights & part of three Days, 1. 19. 11.

May 20, Tuesday. . . . I drove Nancy in my Curricie this Morning to Mr. Stoughtons at Sparham to see Miss Stoughton, but neither him or Sister were at home. I left a Note on his Table to dine at Weston on Thursday. At five this Afternoon I took a Walk to Weston Church and buried the poor Woman, Anne Bowles, whom I went to see lately and prayed by her, she was 31. In the Evening we walked to Hungate-Lodge and drank Coffee & Tea with Mr. and Mrs. Corbould. Mrs. Corboulds Brother, the Revd. Mr. Warren was there. Nancy won at Quadrille this Evening 2. Shillings. Recd. for Tallow of my Butcher to day, o. 2. o.

May 21, Wednesday. . . . Sent Briton early this Morning to Norwich in my little old Cart after Fish &c. against to Morrow. He returned about 4. this Afternoon with fine Maccarells. Mr. Custance very kindly sent us half a Dozen Pigeons. Gave my Carpenters, the two Nelsons, to drink, o. 1. o.

May 22, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at



home. To a poor Woman, by name Thompson from Lincolnshire a great Sufferer by the Sea breaking in upon many Houses & destroying them, her Husband also being drowned in the sad Calamity, gave her o. 2. 6. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, Mr. Warren, Mr. Mellish, and Mr. Jeans dined & spent the Afternoon with us. Mr. Custance joined us in the Evening and drank Coffee and Tea with us, & stayed till 9. o'clock. After Coffee &c. We got to Cards, two Tables, both Whist. Mr. Custance & Nancy, against Mr. Mellish & Mrs. Corbould at one Table. Mr. Corbould and Mr. Warren against Mr. Jeans & self at the other Table. I lost o. 4. 6. Nancy won one Shilling. Our Company stayed with us till 9. o'clock. Dinner to day, half a Dozen fine Maccarel boiled, A Saddle of Mutton roasted, boiled Tongue & Spinnage half a Dozen Pigeons in a Pye and hot, Currant and plain Puddings &c. 2nd. Coarse, Three Spring-Chicken roasted & Asparagus, Berries-Charter, Gooseberry Tarts and Tartlets. Desert, Almonds & Raisins, Oranges, and Olives.

May 24, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early to Norwich this morning after News-papers and some Cloaths, on horseback. Briton returned about 4. o'clock this Afternoon. Recd. for Butter this Evening at 8<sup>d</sup>, o. 1. 8. Nancy had two new Muslin Gowns brought home— And I had a new Waistcoat & Breeches of florentine and a new Waistcoat also of Princes Stuff.

May 25, Sunday. . . . Recd. for a Copy of the Register of a Person belonging to East-Tuddingham concerning one Pleasance Drake, who lives at the same Place, for Miss Hooke, o. 1. o. Tho' fair the Air was quite cold to day. I read Prayers, Preached and christened a Child this Afternoon at Weston Church. Mrs. Corbould and my Niece at Church to day. Mr. Custance

was not at Church. Dinner to day, Fillet of Veal roasted & green Peas. Green Peas for the first time this Season for Dinner, and the first in this Neighbourhood.

May 26, Monday. . . . The eldest Miss Lloyd by name Biddulph, with Miss Nancy Baldwin in a little old Cart, and young Mr. William Priest on horseback all from Reepham, called on us this morning and spent an hour or two with us, eat some Cake and drank some Wine with us. They brought Compts from Mr. & Mrs. Jeans and desired that we would return with the Ladies and partake of a Family Dinner with them &c. Accordingly therefore about one o'clock we got into our Curricule and went with the Ladies to Witchingham and there we all dined at Mr. Jean's with him and Mrs. Jeans. After Coffee & Tea we returned home to Weston and Miss Baldwin &c. returned to Reepham. As we went to Witchingham we met Mr. Custance. Dinner to day, a comical Gooseberry Pudding, some very indifferent Mutton Steaks, the best part of a Rump of Beef roasted and plenty of Garden-Stuff.

May 27, Tuesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mr. Custance sent us some green Peas last Even', by Knights, who also lodged in my Custody by desire of the Purse Club<sup>1</sup> held at the red-Heart, Weston, two forty Pound Bonds of Stephen Andrews Senr. to Js. Knights one of the Members of that Club.

The first Bond, dated Febry. 6th, 1792 }  
 The second Bond, dated May 24, 1794 } £80

at 4. per Cent, the first Bond. The other at five. Dinner to day Beef Steaks and green Peas, &c. Mr. Custance drank Coffee & Tea with us this Evening came about 5. o'clock & stayed till after 9. Mattishall Gaunt to day. My Maid Betty therefore went to it,

<sup>1</sup> See the entry for May 25, 1790, vol. ii, p. 192, and foot-note.

and she is to sleep at her Mothers there to night. Ben drove her over in my old Cart.

May 30, Friday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. At 11. o'clock this morning, Mr. & Mrs. Corbould, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Senr., Mr. Willm. Warren and his Wife, came in three Carriages, to our House, and after sitting some little time, they all walked with us to see Weston-House. When we got to Weston-House, Mr. Custance very politely joined us and went with us over the Rooms, and then after resting a little We walked down to the Gardens and Mr. Custance with us, and then we went thro the farm Yard & after that Mr. Custance left us and we all walked back to Weston-Parsonage, and there I gave them some cold Tongue & new brown Bread and Butter, with Port and Mountaine Wines to drink, they stayed about half an Hour with us and then went home to dinner at Hungate-Lodge, & pressed us much to go with them. We declined that, but promised to drink Tea with them in the Aft. Sr. Edmund Bacon was at Weston House & very chatty. Dinner to day boiled Beef and a Suet-Pudding &c. Recd. a Note of Invitation to dinner on the 4th. of June next being the Kings Birthday; from the Mayor of Norwich Mr. Buckle, my Ironmonger at Norwich. Recd. for Butter, at 8<sup>d</sup> per Pint, 2 Pts.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , o. 1. 8. Between 5. and 6. this Afternoon we took a Walk to Hungate Lodge, & drank Coffee & Tea with Mr. & Mrs. Corbould and their friends with them. After Tea we got to Cards to Quadrille. I lost at it 2<sup>d</sup>. per fish, o. 1. o. Nancy lost also, sixpence only. To my Carpenter, Will. Nelson having 6. Children gave 1. o.

May 31, Saturday. . . . Mr. Custance made us a Morning Visit to take his leave of us, being going to Bath very soon. He seemed very low on the thoughts of



SIR EDMUND BACON, Bart. (1749-1820)

*Painted by H. Walton*





quitting Weston. I was quite sorry to see Mr. Custance so dejected. I believe he goes from Weston to Morrow Morning.

June 1, Sunday. . . . About 10. o'clock this morning we saw Mr. Custance pass by our House in a Post-Chaise for Bath. I hope he will have a safe and good Journey into the West. I read Prayers & Preached this Morning at Weston Ch. Mrs. Corbould and my Niece at Church. Dinner to day, Breast of Veal roasted &c. Strawberries for the first Time this Season.

June 2, Monday. . . . Cut Grass for Hay, but no Clover in it. Cut also the first Cucumber this Season. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Veal roasted &c. Mountebank at Ringland this Afternoon, Ben and the Boy had leave to go and see him. The Boy returned in good Time, But Ben stayed till just 11. which made [me] rather angry before he came home. Washing Week.

June 3, Tuesday. . . . Gave old John Nelson, one of my Carpenters o. 1. o. Nancy sent a Letter this Evening to Mr. Corboulds, by Briton, for him to carry it and put into the Post-Office to Morrow, as he goes to dine with the Mayor to Morrow being the Kings Birth-Day. I was invited, but I declined & sent an Excuse. Nancy's Letter was to Jenny Pounsett at Cole.

June 4, Wednesday. . . . It being the Kings Birth-Day, I put the Ship into the Lagoon in my Garden, full dressed . . .

June 6, Friday. . . . Got up this morning at five o'clock & took a long walk over part of the Parish by the Church. I was far from well this Afternoon, so low & bilious. . . .

June 9, Monday. . . . Paid my Butcher (Willm. Stoughton) this morning a Bill for Meat from Janry. 31, to June 7th., 12. 5. 5½. Recd. of him for a Calf, 6 Stone, 2 lb. 1. 8. 8. Paid him therefore, the balance being

10. 16. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Dinner to day, boiled Calfs Head &c. Was very poorly before dinner, but eat more for dinner than I thought I should by a great deal and drank more Wine than usual after dinner, wch. I think did me good. After Tea this Evening we walked up to Mr. Corboulds & spent about an hour with him & his Wife, old Mr. Corbould & Miss C. Old Mr. Corbould very lame in the Gout in both Legs. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould just called in upon us this Morn' in their return from Belthorpe Church where Mr. Corbould had been to preach a Charity Sermon. Thank God! something better this Even' & relished my Supper. Great doings at the Heart this Aft. being Whit-Monday.

June 10, Tuesday. . . . This being Whit-Tuesday, Weston-Purse-Club, took their annual perambulation round the Parish. I gave to them as usual o. 10. 6. There are thirty of them and to that Number they confine themselves, which is very right in them. Dinner to day, Leg Lamb boiled & Loin fryed &c. In the Evening we walked to Hungate-Lodge and drank Coffee and Tea, by appointment, with Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, old Mr. Corbould and Miss, a Mrs. Bell and a Miss Perkins, a sharp Girl but not handsome. Mrs. Bell is own Sister to the late Mr. Baldwin<sup>1</sup> of Ling. After Coffee we got to Cards, two Tables, one Quadrille the other Whist, Mr. Corbould Senr. and Miss with Mrs. Bell, played at Quadrille, Mr. & Mrs. Corbould against Miss Perkins and self—we lost, but only o. o. 6. Nancy lost at Quadrille o. 1. 6. We did not get home till very near 10 o'clock. Thank God! appeared something better to day.

June 11, Wednesday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to

<sup>1</sup> James Baldwin, Rector of Lyng with Whitwell 1757-83, and of Brandon Parva 1745-83.

Norwich with my great Cart, after my new Garden Roller of Cast-Iron. He returned home with it before two o'clock and brought some Maccarel which we had for dinner with a very nice small Neck of Pork roasted &c. It is a very clever Roller and is called the ballance Roller, as the handle never goes to the Ground. It is certainly very expensive but certainly also very handy. The Roller amounts in the whole to 4. o. o viz: Cast-Iron 2 cwt.—2 qrs.—26 lb., at  $2\frac{1}{2}^d$  per lb. 2. 17. 6. Hammer'd-Iron, 40 lb. at  $6\frac{3}{4}^d$ , do. 1. 2. 6. Ben had leave to dine out, & to stay out all Night.

June 14, Saturday. . . . About two o'clock this Afternoon we had a most dreadful Tempest of Thunder, Lightning and amazing fall of Rain. It lasted till four o'clock. The Lightning very vivid & quick, The Thunder astonishingly loud and lasting. The Rain so hard, that the Garden was soon covered with it. Thank God! however we received no damage. It put back our dinner till after 4. o'clock. Dinner to day, Beans & Bacon, & a green Goose roasted &c. A very uncommon Noise in the Air before the Tempest, like the roaring of the Sea.

June 15, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. I read Prayers, Preached and christened two Children this Afternoon at Weston Church. Nancy walked with me to Church being pleasant. Great News, Lord Howe has beat the French Fleet took seven Men of War with about 5,000. Men. Lord Hood also has beat the French in Corsica.<sup>1</sup> Dinner to day

<sup>1</sup> The French Fleet had gone out from Brest to safeguard a convoy of grain from America; the convoy got in, but the Fleet was utterly defeated by Lord Howe (1725-99) on June 1, off Ushant. About the same time Lord Hood was in process of capturing Corsica with Nelson's help. It is interesting to remember that Nelson's father was a Norfolk country parson—the Rev. Edmund Nelson, Rector of Burnham Thorpe.

fore-Qr. of Lamb roasted &c. Between Tea and Supper Mr. and Mrs. Corbould in taking their Evening Walk called on us and stayed about an hour with us.

June 17, Tuesday. . . . Of one Knowles, who carries about Muslins &c. for 6. Yards of black Nankeen, at  $1^s/6^d$  per Yrd. pd. o. 9. o. To a small Farmer of Denham who lately lost 4. Horses and is going about with a Brief, gave o. 2. 6. Dinner to day, boiled & fried Maccarel & hash Calfs Head. Guild-Day to day at Norwich, we heard the Guns. Brewed a Barrel of Beer.

June 18, Wednesday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Carbould called on us this Evening between Tea & Supper & stayed an hour or better with us. They came home from Norwich to dinner to day. They told us a good deal about the Guild as they were at it—A great many People but very few great folks. Mrs. Corbould met with a sad Accident at the Assembly last Night during Tea-Time. A Tea Kettle of boiling Water was by some Accident or another overturned into Mrs. Corboulds lap, but providentially did not scald her, she was obliged to leave the Assembly Room directly, and did not return any more to it.

June 23, Monday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at home. About 2. o'clock I drove Nancy in my Curricule to Mr. Jeans at Witchingham, and there we dined & spent the Afternoon, with him, Mrs. Jeans, Mr. Mellish of Tuddenham, Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, Mr. Priest of Reepham and his eldest Daughter. After Coffee & Tea, we had two Tables of Whist. Nancy lost  $2^s/o^d$ , and I won, only o. o. 6. We had for Dinner to day, some stewed Mutton, Ham & Chicken, roast-Beef, Calfs Head in batter, Beans, a Couple of Ducks and Peas, Currant Pudding and some sweet things,

kind of Cheese-Cakes. Desert after dinner a vast profusion of Strawberries of 5. different sorts—The Scarlet, the Chili, the Hautboy, the Alpine & the White Wood. We did not get home till 10. o'clock.

June 24, Tuesday. . . . I was very busy all the Morning in writing out a Terrier, against Monday next, being the Bishops primary Visitation at the Cathedral at Norwich. . . .

June 26, Thursday. . . . About 2. o'clock we had part of a Tempest at Weston but not much, very little Rain with it here, but it must have been very severe towards the South West. As Mrs. Jeans promised to call or send to Nancy in her way to Mr. Mellishs at E. Tud-denham to dinner there—We waited from two o'clock to three Quarters after, Nancy all dressed & ready to go with me, but no tidings whatever then arriving, I got into my little Cart by myself and drove to Mellish's, leaving Nancy behind, much disappointed. I got to Mr. Mellishs about a Quarter after three and there I dined & spent the Afternoon with Mr. Mellish, a Mr. Ives of Norwich and Mr. George Smith, Curate to Mr. Smith of Mattishall. We had a very good Dinner, all on China & every thing very tasty. Our Dinner was two regular Courses, the 1st. Course was, fried & boiled Soals, Peas Soup, Leg of Mutton roasted, Ham & 2. boiled Chicken, Beans, plain and Currant Puddings boiled, and Veal Collops. 2nd. Course a Couple of Ducks roasted, Trifle, Sweetbreads, Peas, and a Currant Pye. Neither Mr. or Mrs. Jeans at Dinner. In the Evening about 5. o'clock, Mr. Jeans alone came to us and drank Coffee and Tea with us at Mr. Mellish's. Mr. Ives went for Norwich soon after Tea in his Gig. I returned home about 9. o'clock this Evening. I was very lucky in both going & returning—Many



heavy Storms of Thunder & Lightning near as we went, but escaped it all—About half an Hour going.

June 27, Friday. . . . Recd. of Mr. Stephen Andrews this Morning for a copy of the Terrier which is to be presented at the Bishops primary Visitation at Norwich on Monday next Dr. Charles Sutton,<sup>1</sup> Bishop o. 10. 6. Of Ditto, also for a Copy of the Registers o. 2. 6. James Knights, Gardener &c. at Weston House brought us this Morning by order of J. Custance, Esq., when he left Weston some fine Strawberries, Cherries &c. I gave Knights for his trouble in bringing them o. 1. 0.

June 30, Monday. We got up early this morning, made a running breakfast at home, and then we set forth for Norwich in a Norwich Chaise from the Kings Head, which I had ordered and we got to Norwich safe & well (thank God) a little after nine o'clock to the Kings Head, and there we made a second breakfast. After that I dressed myself in my Canonicals and walked by myself to the Cathedral where we had Prayers & a Sermon preached by Mr. Millard on the Occasion. The Bishop and about 60. Clergymen attended being the Bishops primary Visitation. The Bishop gave us a very excellent charge after we had been all called over. We then went to the Maid's Head Inn in St. Simons and there about thirty of us dined together. The Bishop also dined with us. We each paid for our Dinner o. 3. 0. Procurations due to the Bishop pd. o. 2. 6.<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. Exhibiting Letters of Orders &c. pd. o. 6. 0. About 5. o'clock this Afternoon we broke up and each of us went to our respective Place. I went to the Kings Head and took off my Canonicals. The Bishop treated us with Wine, a Bottle between two. Nancy dined

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. iii, p. 339.

with Miss Corboulds at her Fathers. I drank Tea with them in the Evening and played one Pool at Quadrille. I won o. 1. o. Nancy also won one Shilling at Mr. Corboulds. We supped & slept at the Kings Head, in the best beds.

July 1, Tuesday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at the Kings Head. I got up very early this Morning and walked down to the Barracks and saw the Horse Exercise. For Strawberries &c. this morning pd. o. o. 3. To Mrs. Studwell, paid a Bill for Glasses &c. o. 14. 2. After breakfast, I walked down to the Iron-Foundery and paid Mr. Pechover for my Roller 4. o. o. To my Fishmonger, Edgar paid a Bill for Fish o. 2. 6. To sweet Oranges this morning pd. o. o. 6. At Bunn's Rural Gardens for Shrub & Water pd. o. o. 6. After dressing ourselves we walked about 3. o'clock to Mr. John Priests and there we dined & spent the Afternoon with him, Mrs. Priest, old Mr. Priest of Norwich and his Brother from Reepham, Squire Blofield & Wife of Hoveton, Mrs. Patty Neale & Miss Raven, Mr. Brown-smith & a Miss Fosset, and Mr. Mellish, the unlucky Number of thirteen sat down to dinner. We had for dinner, Hashed Calfs Head, 2. Chicken & a Tongue boiled, stewed Beef, a Couple of Ducks roasted & green Peas, Trifle, &c. After Tea & Coffee about 8. o'clock we all retired. We went to our inn, took off some of our things and then walked half an Hour in Chapel Field before Supper. Gave to a Chimney Sweeper in Chapel Field o. o. 6.

July 2, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined & spent part of the Afternoon at Norwich till about 5. o'clock, and then we got into one of the Kings Head [chaises] and set off for Weston, got home (thank God) safe and well by 7. o'clock, and there we supped & slept again at the

Parsonage House. At Nosworthy's this Morning for some Soap pd. o. 1. o. At Critchfields for 2. new Razors &c. &c. pd. 1. 4. 4. To 19. Yards of Russia for long Towels pd. o. 7. 11. Paid at the Kings Head for 2. Chaises & Bill 2. 9. 8. To Servants and Barber at the Kings Head gave o. 10. o. I got up very early again this morning and took a long walk before breakfast; bad News from the continent this morning—The French have beat the Allies.<sup>1</sup>

July 7, Monday. . . . Exceeding hot indeed this Morning, Therm. 102. To a poor Sailor having lost his left hand, gave 1. o. . . .

July 9, Wednesday. . . . I got up this Morning at 5. o'clock & took a Walk. At 2. o'clock this Afternoon I drove Nancy over to East Tuddenham to Mr. Mellishs, and there we dined and spent the Afternoon with him, Mr. and Mrs. Howman and with them a Miss Headley, and Mr. and Mrs. Jeans. We had a Dish of Soals & Shrimp Sauce, Calfs Head, part hashed & part boiled, Tongue & 3. boiled Chicken, Veal Collops, and baked Plumb Pudding, Fish removed, Leg of Mutton rosted, 2. Ducks rosted and Peas, Trifle, Cherry Pye, and Blamange. Desert, Currants and Gooseberries & some Strawberries. After Coffee & Tea we all took a Walk, and about half past eight we all started for our respective homes. Great changes in the Ministry, Mr. Windham, Member for Norwich

<sup>1</sup> The Allies were beaten by the Republican Army under Jourdan at the battle of Fleurus on June 26, 1794, and on July 5 they determined to evacuate Belgium after a series of defeats which had begun with that of the Duke of York at Tourcoing on May 18. 'The battle of Fleurus', says Lord Acton, 'established the ascendancy of the French in Europe as the 1st of June had created that of England on the ocean. They began the offensive, and retained it for twenty years.' (Acton's *Lectures on the French Revolution*, p. 328.)

made Secretary of War,<sup>1</sup> which vacates his Seat in Parliament, Election at Norwich, Saturday next. A Meeting of the County also on that Day & Market Day. July 12, Saturday. . . . Hurrying Work to day at Norwich. Mingay of Thetford opposed Mr. Windham but soon obliged to decline, and Mr. Windham very soon re-elected. Some of the Norwich People wished to make a disturbance but they did not dare to put it in execution. Charles Cary brought my Newspapers for me. . . .

July 14, Monday. . . . I privately baptized a Child of Curzons this Morning at my House by name Elizabeth. Dinner to day Peas and Pork &c. Between Tea & Supper we walked to Hungate Lodge and there saw old Mr. Corbould & Mr. Howlett in a little back Room smoaking their Pipes & drinking Port-Wine. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould we met as they were taking their Evening ride in their Gig. They sent us some green Wall-nuts for to pickle, this is the right time.

July 15, Tuesday. . . . Paid my Carpenter, Willm. Pyle a Bill this Morning for work done by his Man, lately of 5. 18. 6. Dinner to day, boiled Beef & Greens &c. In the Evening we walked up to Mr. Corboulds and there we drank Coffee & Tea, with Mr. & Mrs. Corbould, and old Mr. Corbould, Father of Mr. Corbould. After Tea we got to Quadrille, at which I lost o. 3. o. Nancy won, at 2. a Fish, this Evening o. 4. o. We did not get home till after 9. o'clock some time. We made too long a Pool at Quadrille. Old Mr. Corbould lost 1. Shilling, he grumbled abt. it. Mrs. Corbould did not play at all at Quadrille. Brewed a Barrell of Beer. July 17, Thursday. . . . Soon after Eleven this Morning I drove Nancy over to Mr. Mellishs at East-Tudden-

<sup>1</sup> See vol. i, p. 217-19, for some account of Mr. Windham.

ham and paid our respects to Mr. Mellish's Mother and his Sister, we stayed near an Hour with them and then returned home to dinner—They are very genteel, and fashionable Ladies—Miss Mellish very handsome indeed, and seemed very sensible & accomplished. Mrs. Mellish a fine old Lady and very chatty—They are People of great Fortune I apprehend, and live quite in Style. We had a warm ride of it. Miss Mellish's Name is Nancy. Miss Woodforde likes Miss Mellish very much. Dinner to day, Breast of Mutton roasted &c.

July 19, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton this morning in my little old Cart to Norwich after News and many other things. He returned by dinner. No Letters from Somersett. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c. No good News from the Continent—French prevail.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Foster of Lenewade Bridge sent us 3. fine Eels this Ev'. Mr. Corbould sent us some more green Wallnutts to pickle.

July 21, Monday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. We were made up, pretty soon this morning, expecting a Morn' Call from Mrs. & Miss Mellish. Have had a sore Throat for 2 or 3. Days, and this Morning rather worse, it made me quite low. Drank Port Wine for it, more than I used to do.

July 22, 'Tuesday. . . . About 11. o'clock Mr. & Mrs. Jeans called here with her eldest Daughter, they being going to make Mrs. and Miss Mellish a Morning Visit. They had not been gone more than ten minutes from my house towards Mr. Mellish's, than they met Mr. Mellish with his Mother and Miss Mellish coming to my House, and then Mr. & Mrs. Jeans returned back with them to our House, and there they all stayed till near two o'clock, & then all went away. Mrs. Mellish

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note to entry for July 2.



& Miss came in a very genteel new-fashioned Chariot, which can be thrown quite open. I got up very indifferent indeed this Morning and continued rather worse in my Throat & Stomach than Yesterday. The red Wine Yesterday I think did not agree, my sore throat I now believe to be more of the inflammatory kind than putrid. In the Evening very indifferent, could eat little or nothing for Dinner. I had some Water gruel for Supper. Dinner to day, Giblet Soup & Knuckle of beef boiled &c. Eat very little indeed for dinner, no relish for Meat.

July 23, Wednesday. . . . Thank God! got up much better this morning than I expected, my throat was certainly better in not drinking so much Port Wine as Yesterday, found myself pretty comfortable to day, would drink no Port Wine at all to day. About Noon I drove Nancy over to Witchingham to Mr. Jeans, and there left her to dine with Mrs. Jeans as Mr. Jeans went with me to Sparham where we dined & spent the Afternoon at Mr. Stoughtons with him, Dr. Baker & Son of Cawston, and Mr. Priest and his Son William who appears to be in a decline. We stayed there till after 7. o'clock, and on our return on Sparham Heath we met Mrs. Jeans & Nancy in a little Cart, returning from drinking Tea this Aft. at Colonel Lloyds. We then made an exchange, I took Nancy into my Cart in the Place of Mr. Jeans and Mr. Jeans drove Mrs. Jeans in her Cart to Witchingham. We got home long before nine o'clock. We had for Dinner at Mr. Stoughtons some fried Soals, a Couple of boiled Chicken & Pigs face, Peas & Beans, a rost Leg of Mutton, Currant & plain Pudding boiled, and some Codlin Tarts. We had no Coffee this Evening, only Tea. Gooseberries and Currants by way of desert. Port & Sherry, bottled

Ale & good bottled Cyder. I dined chiefly on Soals and boiled Chicken, and drank very little of any thing but Cyder, which I found agreed with me very well. Dr. Baker & Mr. Priest smoked a Pipe of Tobacco, but I declined it this Aft. Had Water Gruel again for Supper, & then smoked a Pipe with small Rum & Water, & small Beer. Nancy highly pleased with her Jaunt to day—Mrs. Jeans very civil & kind to her—Ham & 2. rost Chicken for Dinner—Also very genteelly recd. at Colonel Lloyds—Most of the young Ladies were very luckily at home, had singing & Musick.

July 24, Thursday. . . . I reprimanded Briton this Evening for going to Bidewells and staying there unknown to me longer than he ought and am afraid was rather tipsy. At bed-time, which was full two hours after, he gave me notice that he had rather leave my Service at Michaelmas next. Such is the gratitude of Servants. He has been with me nine Years the 26. of April last, which I find is much too long for any Norfolk Servant for they will then get pert, saucy & do as they please. Such of late has been the behaviour of Briton. To Morrow Morning, I told him, I should speak to him.

July 25, Friday. . . . I told Briton this Morning that I should by no means keep him after Michaelmas—He did not care for he could get a Place he did not doubt, if not, he had a home to go to, his Fathers. After breakfast, he walked into the Garden to work singing out very loud, which was very impudent.<sup>1</sup> Thank God Almighty am brave to what I was. . . .

Aug. 1, Friday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. About 11. o'clock this morning I took a Walk with Nancy to Weston House being a fine Morning, and after staying there about 20. Minutes, we walked

<sup>1</sup> Briton did not go at Michaelmas after all.

on to Lenewade Bridge and called on Mrs. Foster & Family there. After staying there about half an Hour we walked back again to Weston House, rested ourselves there above half an Hour, as it rained some small matter, and then returned home to dinner. We set out in the Rain on our return home from Weston House, we got an Umbrella there, but the Rain did not last any time, over long before we got home. Nancy was but very little fatigued by so long a Walk. Dinner to day, boiled Neck of Mutton &c. Between 5. and 6. this Evening Mr. Corbould came on foot to our house and desired that we would go and drink Tea with Mrs. Corbould this Evening, which we did and returned home to Supper by nine. After Coffee & Tea we got to Quadrille, won o. 1. o. We walked thither and back again, so that Nancy had a good deal of walking to day, near seven Miles has she walked this day & very well. As Mr. Corbould goes to Norwich to Morrow, Nancy desired him to carry a Letter to the Post-Office for her. It was a Letter to her Brother Samuel in London.

Aug. 2, Saturday. . . . Had a very restless Night last Night, very little sound Sleep, if any, unpleasant hurrying kind of Dreams, I have had some gouty Pains in one of my Heels for some few days past, tho' not very painful, a heavy dull, labouring kind of feel it seems to be. I have drank very little Port Wine of late, only 2. small Glasses a day. Begun Harvest this day, in cutting my Oats. . . .

Aug. 3, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers & Preached this morning at Weston-Church. Nancy walked with me to Weston Church this morning. After Dinner about 2. o'clock I drove Nancy to little Witchingham, where I read Prayers & Preached this Afternoon at that

Church, which is a very small one. After Divine Service this Afternoon I drove Nancy to Great Witchingham to Mr. Jeans's, and there we drank Tea with Mrs. Jeans only, Mr. Jeans is in Hampshire. We returned home to Supper in good time. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Veal roasted &c. We put up our Horses at Mr. Bidewells at Little Witchingham, very civil People indeed. I served little Witchingham for Mr. Jeans who is gone into Hampshire. Had but a small Congregation, about 30.

Aug. 7, Thursday. . . . Old Mr. Corbould with his Daughter called at the Garden Gate this morning in their Cart, took up Nancy into it and gave her an Airing, returning about two o'clock with her, and then the old gentleman and Daughter returned to Hungate-Lodge to dinner. They eat some Harvest Cake &c. at my House. Dinner to day, boiled Beef & plumb Pudding & rost Fowl. In the Evening we walked up to Hungate Lodge and drank Coffee & Tea with Mr. & Mrs. Carbould, old Mr. Corbould and Miss Corbould. After Tea we played one Pool at Quadrille, won o. o. 6.

Aug. 8, Friday. . . . Begun mowing Barley this Morning. Dinner to day, boiled Leg of Mutton & Codlin Pudding. Intended to have Caper Sauce, but when we come to look at our Capers, they were all bad, musty & mouldy.

Aug. 9, Saturday. . . . Betty Cary brought our Newspapers &c. from Norwich. Nancy had by her a Letter from Jenny Pounsett, in which was a ten Pound Bank of England Bill, for me from Mr. Pounsett, in part of Rent due to me from Somerset Tenants at Ansford &c. £10. o. o. All our Friends tolerably well in Somerset.

Aug. 10, Sunday. . . . Cut a Cucumber in our Garden this morning that measured in length eleven Inches and half. I read Prayers & Preached this Afternoon at Weston Ch. Nancy walked with me to Church this Afternoon. Had a pretty full Congregation at Church. Dinner to day, hash'd Calfs Head, and a Piece of rost Beef &c. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould drank Coffee & Tea with us this Evening, they came about 6. and stayed till half past 8. Mrs. Corbould not at Weston Church this Afternoon as she went to Marlingford-Church with Mr. Corbould.

Aug. 11, Monday. . . . Master Charles Townshend called here this Evening and eat some of our harvest Cake—He came on a little Hobby & Mr. Townshends Butler, Griffith, with him. I took a Walk this morning to see George Warton who is very ill, found him in a sad state, and to me he appears to be very near his End—I could not perceive any sense in him.

Aug. 13, Wednesday. . . . Very fine Weather (thanks to God for it) for the Harvest. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould went for Norwich this morning, we go to meet them to Morrow being Assize Week.

Aug. 14, Thursday. We breakfasted at Weston Parsonage about 7. o'clock this morning, and at 8. or thereabout we got into our little Cart and drove to Norwich & Briton went with us on horseback, we got to Norwich safe & well thank God for it, before 10. and there we dined, and supped and slept, as follows—We dined at old Corboulds with him, his Daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. Corboulds from Weston. Nancy also supped and slept there. A Mrs. Bell also dined with us at old Mr. Corbould's. I supped & slept at my Inn the Kings Head. We had for Dinner to day, a small Dish of



fryed Soals very small, a Couple of Chicken boiled & a Ham, A Leg of Mutton roasted, a rost Duck &c. After Tea this Evening, Mr. Corbould Junr. and Wife, Miss Corbould, Nancy & self went to the Theatre Royal and saw a Play, the Mountaineers, and the Entertainment was the Prize. A very full House indeed every Box filled. It was not over till after 11. o'clock. I walked to my Inn and the Ladies went in a Coach to their home. In my Walk this morning before Dinner, I called at Mrs. Brewsters, and paid, omitted in my last Bill o. 1. 9. At Mr. Bacon's also for Books paid o. 9. 6. At Charles Chamberlain's, Grocer for Mace, 1 oz. o. 4. o. At Ditto's for Cloves, 1 oz. o. 1. o. At Ditto's for Pig-Tail Tobacco  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. o. o. 8. At Blacks, Confectioner for Savoy Biscuits  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. pd. o. o. 2. For Fruit at the Theatre this Evening pd. o. 1. o. For Porter at the White Swan for Mr. Corbould & self pd. o. o. 6. Called at both the Priests & gave an order for Wines &c.

Aug. 15, Friday. I breakfasted at my Inn, and after breakfast went a Shopping. At John Priests for mace, 1 oz. paid o. 4. o. At John Priests also, for Cloves, 1 oz. pd. o. 1. o. At Ditto. for East-India Nutmegs 1 oz. pd. o. 1. o. At Ditto. for 1 lb. of whole Black Pepper pd. o. 2. o. To Lewis Johnson, Barber, in the Upper Market for a new two-curved brown Bob Peruke paid 1. 5. o. Nancy breakfasted at old Mr. Corboulds, called on them about 11. o'clock, and then Nancy walked with me to Mrs. Francis's in St. Stephens, Surry Street, and made her a Morning Visit. We returned to Mr. Corboulds about 12. and then we walked with Mr. and Mrs. Corbould and Miss Corbould down to Keymers public Gardens, there being a public breakfast this Morn' and a Concert. Not

much Company there. Henry Hobart Esq.<sup>1</sup> one of the Members for Norwich was there, a poor Concert and worse singing, & Coffee, Tea & Chocolate so indifferent that I did not so much as taste it. We stayed there till 2. and then we returned home to dress for Dinner. At half past three we all met at old Mr. Corbould's and dined & spent part of the Afternoon. At 5. o'clock I walked to my Inn, paid my Bill, ordered my little Cart to the Gates in half an Hour, and then returned to Mr. Corboulds to take Nancy with me. Paid at the Kings Head for self & Horses o. 7. o. Gave to Servants at the Kings Head o. 4. 6. Mr. Corbould Junr. paid for our Tickets to the Play last Night, Coach Hire, public Gardens, & Fruit, and I am to be one half of all the expenses. Mr. Corbould Junr. and Miss Corbould walked with us to the Gates in St. Giles's, and there we got into our Curricule about 6. o'clock & went for Weston, got thither thank God safe & well about half past seven to the Parsonage, and there we supped and slept. Dinner to day at old Mr. Corboulds, was, some small fryed Soals, half a Breast of Veal boiled & Anchovey Sauce, a Piece of rost Beef, and an Orleans plumb Pudding. They all behaved with the greatest Civility to us. At Bacon's this Morning for the Poll for Norwich pd. o. 1. 6. At Ditto's for Longe's Visitation Sermon pd. o. 1. 6. At Ditto's Horne's Charge, late Bishop of Norwich<sup>2</sup> o. 1. o. At Ditto's Peele's Guild-day Sermon o. 1. o. Aug. 21, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at at home, Dinner to day, boiled Neck of Mutton and a very poor honey<sup>3</sup> of a Goose rosted, it would not

<sup>1</sup> See foot-notes vol. ii, pp. 125 and 310.

<sup>2</sup> See foot-note vol. iii, p. 204.

<sup>3</sup> See foot-note, vol. iii, p. 353.

fat. Finished Harvest this Evening. I cracked my Parlour Bell this Evening by giving it a very gentle Touch with my little Stick, and which I had done many times before without hurting it. It fretted me a good deal, but not at all abt. the value.

Aug. 22, Friday. . . . Going over my Turnips in my two acre Piece this Even' I started a Hare and my greyhound, Snip, being with me, had a Course with her, but she got off.

Aug. 24, Sunday. . . . I got up very indifferent this Morn' such a lowness upon my Spirits, and sinking within me. After dinner thank God! was something better. I read Prayers, Preached & christened a Child this Aft. at Weston Church. Miss Woodforde at Church. . . .

Aug. 25, Monday. . . . To Knights for fruit from Weston House gave o. 1. o. which fruit I sent to Mr. Corboulds at Hungate Lodge. Mr. Corbould gave us a short morning Call. About one o'clock this Aft. I walked to Weston Church and buried poor George Warton, aged 65. Years. At three o'clock this Afternoon we walked to Hungate Lodge, and there dined & spent the Afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, Miss Corbould, Mr. & Mrs. Day of Horsford, a Mrs. Payne, Sister to Mrs. Day, formerly Westons, and Mr. and Mrs. Jeans of Witchingham. Mrs. Howman of Hockering drank Tea at Mr. Corboulds. We had a very genteel Dinner—First Course at the upper End, stewed Tench, Veal Soup, best part of a Rump of Beef boiled, 2 rost Chicken and a Ham, Harrico Mutton, Custard Puddings, backed Mutton Pies, Mashed Potatoes in 3. Scollop Shells brown'd over, Roots 2. Dishes. Second Course. At the upper End, Rabbitts fricasseed, at the lower End Couple of Ducks roasted, Trifle

in the Middle, blamange, Cheesecakes, Maccaroni, and small Rasberry-Tartlets. Desert of Fruit mostly that sent by me to them, Peaches, Nectarines and three kinds of Plumbs. We got home between 8. and 9. in the Evening. Mr. and Mrs. Jeans drove furiously by our House as they went to Mr. Corboulds, Mrs. Jeans took Miss Woodforde up pretty sharply, but Nancy silenced her very soon.

Aug. 26, Tuesday. . . . Brewed a Barrell of Table Beer to day. To 4. Yards and 3. Quarters of Cambrick for Handkerchiefs for myself, at 6. Shillings a Yard, paid Aldridge 1. 8. 6. which will make me five good Handkerchiefs, and a small one for Nancy besides. . . .

Aug. 30, Saturday. . . . We made some Cheesecakes to day, the first we ever made and exceeding good they were indeed. Billy Bidewells People brought our Newspaper for us.

Sept. 1st, Monday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Herring, & his Nephew, Tuttle of Norwich & Peachman beat very early this Morning for Partridges all round my House, before anybody else, shot several times, and about Noon came again & did the same, went thro' my Yard, but never sent me a single Bird. A little before 2. Mr. Corbould, with young Londale and John Girling Junr., Mr. Custances Gamekeeper, called on us & Girling gave us a Leash of Partridges. Dinner to day, boiled Calfs Head, Pork & Greens, and one Partridge roasted, & Pigeon Pye. This being the first Day of Partridge shooting, Guns from all Quarters of Weston were heard, Morn' & Afternoon. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould with Miss Corbould & young Londale gave us a call between Tea & Supper for about  $\frac{1}{2}$  an Hour.

Sept. 2, Tuesday. . . . Herring sent me this Evening a brace of Partridges.

Sept. 5, Friday. . . . To J<sup>r</sup> Nelson & Son, as they were at work for me all their Morning, I gave them to drink o. 1. o. I was but very indifferent the whole day long. I privately named a Child of John Bucks the blacksmith, at my house this Morn' by name John. Both my Chimnies were finished this Evening by the Masons, and I hope they will not now smoke so bad. Dinner to day, Loin of Beef boiled, mushrooms stewed &c. Miss Corbould called on us between Tea and Supper she came walking by herself and stayed about half an Hour, and then we walked home with her to Hungate Lodge and we returned immediately without going in it being almost dark, we had a very dirty Walk of it. It was pretty near 9. by our Clock again we got back.

Sept. 9, Tuesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mr., Mrs. and Miss Priest from Reepham, Mr. Priest Senr., and his Son John & Wife from Norwich, dined and spent the Afternoon with us to day. The Norwich Priests came in a full-bodied Coach & returned in the same. They all left us about 7. in the Evening. We gave them for Dinner, hash'd Calf's Head, Peas Soup, Saddle of Mutton roasted, a Couple of Chicken boiled and a Tongue and Garden Stuff. 2nd Course A Couple of Ducks roasted, a batter Pudding & Jelly, boiled Pigeons, Cherry Tarts & Cheese-cakes. Mrs. Priest Senr. of Norwich was to have been of the Party, but being a puny thing, did not come on account of the Weather turning out very indifferent.

Sept. 11, Thursday. . . . Thank God! I find myself much better than I was a few days ago, by abstaining from fruit, drinking a Glass or two of Port Wine extraordinary, and taking some Rhubarb on going to bed every night, a very small quantity, and chewing of it.



Sept. 13, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this morning after News &c. N.B. Mr. & Mrs. Jeans & two Daughters drank Tea with us in the Afternoon of Yesterday which I had forgot to mention before. I paid Mr. Jeans for some Lace edging 4. Yards and half for Nancy at 4<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, o. 18. o. Briton did not return from Norwich till 5. o'clock this Afternoon—The old harness of the cart often breaking on the road back. Recd. by him a Letter from the Bishop concerning Curates. Dinner to day, Loin of Pork roasted &c.

Sept. 14, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers & Preached this morning at Weston Ch. Miss Corbould with my Niece were at Church. In the Afternoon we took a Walk to Mr. Courboulds and drank Coffee & Tea, with him, Mrs. Corbould, Miss Corbould, a Mr. Hastings, Rackham & his Wife of Hockering Park Farm, belonging to old Mr. Berney of Brecon-Ash. . . . Hastings appeared to be a modest well behaved young Farmer. Rackham & Wife very bold & high, and but low in the World neither.

Sept. 15, Monday. . . . Took a ride this morning in my little Curricule to Mr. Mellish's at E. Tuddenham, to make him a Visit after his return from London on Friday last, after the very late melancholy Event in his Family, the Death of his Mother, who was taken off very soon indeed, by a very violent Fever, she is much regretted by all that knew her. We never saw her but twice, once at Mr. Mellish's & once at my own house and that not above two Months ago, and then she appeared as well & in as good Spirits as I ever saw any Person. Pray God! she may be happier and send Comfort to her much distressed Family—As so good a Parent must occasion on her decease such sorrow as is not to be described or felt but by those that have

experienced it—The Loss of my dear Parents I feel to this Moment, and never can forget it during Life. I stayed with Mr. Mellish about an Hour, and then returned home to dinner. I found him very low. Mr. Jeans had been with him this Morning before. At Harwich <sup>1</sup> all Day, having Masons white-washing my Study Ceiling &c. &c. Dinner to day, Neck of Pork roasted &c. Mr. Collison sent us 2. brace of Partridges this Aft.

Sept. 16, Tuesday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Norwich after some Wine from Mr. Priest's—A Quarter of a Pipe of Port, two Dozen of Sherry, and one Dozen of Mountain, with four Gallons of old Jamaica Rum. The Study, Kitchen, back Kitchen, Dairy &c. &c. all white-washing to-day, by 2. Masons & their Clerks. All things out of their proper places, all hurly and burly, and in the midst of it this morning who should come to us, but Mrs. Cornwallis <sup>2</sup> and Mrs. Townshend from Honingham Hall, who stayed with us in our best Parlour about an Hour and then returned home. All the Parlour filled with things. Ben returned about 4. this Aft. with all things safe. He brought back from Norwich some fine fresh Herrings, the first I have seen this Season. Dinner to day, rost Beef &c. Finished white-washing &c. this Evening and dismissed the Masons, with their Clerks.

Sept. 18, Thursday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with my great Cart, and in it 6. Hampers, and in them 198. empty Bottles, and two Liquor Casks, for Mr. Priest in St. Giles, in return in full for what I received from him on Tuesday last. Ben brought me back half a Chaldron of Coals. About 12. o'clock Mr. Corbould & Sister, with the two Miss

<sup>1</sup> See entry for June 13, 1777, vol. i.

<sup>2</sup> See foot-note, vol. i, p. 318.

Hardys, called on us in two Carriages, and we went with them to Weston-House, where we stayed till after two o'clock in looking over the House. Miss Hardy, my Niece & self walked to Weston House, and Mr. Corbould walked back with me as the Ladies rode back. We did not return home till after 3. o'clock. They did not stay at all at my House on returning. In the Evening Mr. & Mrs. Corbould, Miss Corbould and the two Miss Hardys, drank Coffee & Tea with us, & stayed till near 9. o'clock with us. After Coffee we got to Cards, to Limited Loo, at one halfpenny per Counter, limited to 30. Counters. Very little lost by any one, nothing lost &c. by me. We spent a very merry Evening together. Dinner to day boiled Pork & a brace of Partridges. Ben returned about 4. o'clock this Afternoon and brought us home 2. Dozen of fresh Herrings.

Sept. 21, Sunday. . . . We had our Newspapers &c. early this morning by Betty Cary, not having them last Night was owing to her not coming home from Norwich till very late. Recd. a Letter from Mr. Utten of Norwich, Secretary to the Bishop, concerning a Confirmation at Reepham on Tuesday, October 7th. I read Prayers & Preached this Afternoon at Weston Ch. I also published the Banns of Matrimony between two Couple this Aft. at Weston Church, recd. for it o. 5. o. Gave Notice of a Confirmation being to be holden at Reepham by our Bishop (Dr. Sutton) on Tuesday Oct. 7th.<sup>1</sup> I preached on the benefits & Use of Confirmation. Dinner to day, Breast of Veal roasted &c.

Sept. 23, Tuesday. . . . I walked to Church this Morning between 10. & 11. o'clock, and married by Licence,

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. ii, p. 322.

One Daniel Tabble of Ling and Anne Dannel of Weston, a forced Match, she being very near her time, and he under Custody of the Parish Officers ever since Yesterday morning.<sup>1</sup> I recd. of the Officers for marrying them o. 10. 6. being the usual Fee for marrying by Licence here. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c. Rather uneasy to day & Yesterday having a small kind of sore on my right ankle of my right Foot, and which was very painful, I have had a plaster on it some time but did not change it often enough as I thought it would soon be well, and so corroded it. I changed it Yesterday & to day, which I hope will make it better in time. It seems to be eaten down into a small kind of hole which at times has pricking pains. I think it was something better & easier this Evening.

Sep. 25, Thursday. . . . My ankle very painful in the night at times, which made me sleep but very little, dismal dreams. My ankle having given so much Pain last Night & having applied nothing at all to it but our Family Plaster, soon after breakfast I sent to John Reeves at the Heart who practises something in the doctoring way, for some Yellow Basilicum Ointment, which I immediately applied to my ankle, & wch. Dr. Buchan<sup>2</sup> recommends, pray God! it may do good—But I have my doubts of its turning out a very serious matter—I mean my ankle which I am afraid

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. ii, pp. 297–9.

<sup>2</sup> Doubtless Dr. William Buchan (1729–1805), whose *Domestic Medicine; or the Family Physician*, first published in 1769 went into nineteen editions during Buchan's lifetime. It was the first work of its kind published in this country, and was translated into many languages, including Russian. Other works by Dr. Buchan concerned the *Diet of the Common People*, the *Offices and Duties of a Mother*, and *Cautions concerning Cold Bathing and Drinking Mineral Waters*. Dr. Buchan was buried in Westminster Abbey. (See *D.N.B.*).

is much worse than it appears to be—very dangerous. It makes me I must confess very low. Mr. Corbould made us a morning Visit. Dinner to day, boiled Tongue & Turnips &c.

Sept. 26, Friday. . . . Had a better night of Sleep than the last Night and my Ankle not so painful, better I believe from my applying the Basilicum Ointment Yesterday, and it appeared better this morning on being fresh dressed. My Spirits (thank God) much better to day. Very busy all the morning from breakfast to dinner in cleaning my Study Pictures thoroughly. Dinner to day, Eels fryed & boiled, and boiled Beef. I relished my Dinner very well to day & eat hearty.

Sept. 29, Monday. . . . Slept very well all night & ankle very easy. Paid my Butcher, Willm. Stoughton, this Morning for Meat, for the last four Months, a Bill of 10. 17. 6. Dinner to day boiled Chicken & Pork & Veal Cutlets. I had one Person, by name Anna Harrison, come to me to day to be examined, against the Day of Confirmation at Reepham on Tuesday the seventh of October.

Sept. 30, Tuesday. . . . Pretty busy this Morning at home having had thirteen young People come to me to be examined against Confirmation next Week. I gave them all Cake and a Glass of Wine. Dinner to day Knuckle of Veal boiled with Pork & Greens and a brace of Partridges roasted &c. In the Afternoon or rather Evening we walked to Hungate Lodge and drank Coffee & Tea with Mr. [and] Mrs. Carbould, Mrs. Corbould's Brother, a Mr. John Warren a Clergyman, and Mr. Girlings eldest Son who had been shooting with Mr. Corbould all the whole morning. We returned home to Supper.



Oct. 1st, Wednesday. . . . I had three more young People come to me this Morning to be examined against the Confirmation. Between 2. and 3. o'clock, I drove Nancy over to Mr. Jeans, and there dined & spent the Afternoon with him, Mrs. Jeans, Mr. & Mrs. Day of Horsford & Mrs. Payne, Colonel Lloyd & his eldest Daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, Miss Corbould & Mr. Warren Brother to Mrs. Corbould, and Mr. Priest of Reepham. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, Mr. Warren and Miss Corbould went with us thither & came back with us. We had for Dinner some fried Eels, Pork Steaks and a very fine Haunch of New Forest Venison. 2nd. a rost Turkey, one Duck roasted, Pudding &c. Getting to Cards after Tea & Coffee made it very late, indeed after 9. o'clock before we started and then very dark indeed, we were however very lucky in following Mr. Corboulds Carriage, that being lighted. Thank God! we got home very safe and very well. We were asked to another Haunch on Friday next at the same Place, but we have Company that Day.

Oct. 2, Thursday. . . . Mr. Corbould sent us this Evening a Leesh of Partridges. Between 7. & 8. this Evening, who should call on us but Mrs. Aldis who formerly lived in the Capacity of Housekeeper at Weston-House, and Hetty Yollop who now lives with Mrs. Custance as her Maid at Bath, but lately come into Norfolk for her health, she having been very poorly indeed at Bath. She is very thin. They did not stay long with us, eat some Cake and drank a Glass of Port Wine each of them. Mrs. Aldis lives at Bungay, keeps an Inn there, she is fat. Thank God my Ankle continues finely, almost well.

Oct. 4, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Between 8. and 9. this morning being a fine

Morning, I drove to Norwich in my little Cart and Briton went with me in it, we got there soon after 10. o'clock, stayed at Norwich till two in the Afternoon and then drove back to Weston to a late Dinner by 4. in the Afternoon. When at Norwich, I called on Mr. Priest Senr. and paid him a Bill for Wine &c. of the Sum of 17. 16. 6. as per Receipt, dated October 4, 1794. Called also on Mr. John Priest, and there paid him for a Cake of Yellow Bees-Wax, 1lb. and a Quarter, at 2<sup>s</sup>/o<sup>d</sup> per lb. o. 2. 6. To Gingerbread &c. at Norwich, pd. abt. o. o. 8. Dinner to day, fried Herrings & a Goose roasted. Nancy had a long Letter from her Brother Willm. On my return home found a Letter for me from Mr. Mellish dated Broad-Stairs, brought by his Servant this Morning to my House, desiring me to serve Honingham Church to Morrow for him, his Aunt with whom he is, being very dangerously ill. I sent a Note over to his House this Evening for his Servant to acquaint the Clerk of Honingham, that Divine Service would be performed at Honingham Church to Morrow Morning at 11. o'clock, by me. It rained good part of the way on my return was wet through in several Places, but I only changed my Shoes, they being very wet.

Oct. 7, Tuesday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at home. It being a fine cheery Morning tho' cool, we got up at 7. o'clock, dressed ourselves, and about 8. we got into my little Curricl, and I drove Nancy over to Witchingham to Mr. Jeans's where we made a second tho late breakfast with Mr. & Mrs. Jeans, the Bishop of Norwich Dr. Charles Sutton and his Chaplain, Mr. Thoroton a young Man, and half Brother to the Bishop who married his Sister.<sup>1</sup> We had for breakfast,

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. iii, p. 339.

Chocolate, green & brown Tea, hot Rolls, dried Toast, Bread & Butter, Honey, Tongue and ham grated very small. The Bishop did not come to Mr. Jeans's till 10. o'clock having mistaken the road. He and his Chaplain came in a Post-Chariot & four, with three Servants. About a Quarter before 11., we attended the Bishop to Reepham to Mr. Priest's, and when the Bishop had robed himself we attended him to Church in our Gowns, where he confirmed about 200. People.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Priest, Mr. Jeans & self were with the Bishop in the Church, arranging the People in order as they came & the Chaplain recd. the Tickets at the Church Gates. It was all finished by two Clock, and the Bishop walked back to Mr. Priests, we attending him, and after drinking a Dish of Chocolate, the Bishop with his Chaplain drove back to Norwich to a late Dinner. A great Many Clergy attended on the Occasion, in their Canonicals, who most of them after their return from Church, went for their respective homes. Mr. Jeans, Nancy & self dined at Mr. Priests with him, Mrs. Priest, Miss Mary & Miss Sally Priest, Robt. & Charles Priest. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton boiled & a Couple of Ducks roasted, and a baked rice Pudding. About 5. o'clock we left Reepham and drove to our respective homes. We left Mr. Jeans at Witchingham, did not get out being likely for Rain, which it did a little on the road from Mr. Jeans's, and lucky we had not more, for our Umbrella was clung so fast that we had a hard matter to open it when at home. Mr. Priest, Mr. Jeans & self, went to the Kings Arms

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. ii, p. 322, on Confirmation in the eighteenth century. This is the first entry giving real information on a Confirmation service in Parson Woodforde's *Diary*. Better roads on the one hand, and the Wesleyan revival on the other, are having their effect on the Church of England.

after the Bishop was gone, to dine with some of the Clergy, as there was a Dinner bespoke, but only meeting with Mr. Atthill of Foulsham there, we returned to Mr. Priests. As we did not dine at the Kings Arms we gave the Landlord, Bell, by way of compensation one Shilling each, with which he was very well satisfied. We got home safe & well, thank God for it before seven o'clock. The Rain that fell Yesterday rose the Water at Foxford & at Eads Mill quite high, Nancy very much alarmed & frightened therewith as it came almost into our little Cart. Every thing however passed over exceeding well to day and all conducted well throughout. Miss Woodforde much pleased with her Excursion and mightily so with the Bishop's very agreeable and affable, as well as polite & sensible behaviour.

Oct. 9, Thursday. . . . Mr. Corbould sent us some Walnuts this Morning. I sent him back in return a large Piece of my large Somersett strong-Cheese. Mr. and Mrs. Jeans, Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, Mr. Stoughton and with him a Mr. Marsh, dined and spent the Afternoon, and stayed with us till after nine in the Evening. It was a fine Day for them and a very light Night to return home. After Coffee & Tea, we made two Tables at Cards, at one was played Whist, at the other Cribbage. Mrs. Jeans, Mrs. Corbould, Mr. Stoughton & Mr. Marsh were at the Whist Table. Mr. Jeans, Mr. Corbould, Miss Woodforde and Self at the Cribbage Table, at which Nancy lost 3<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, and I won 0. 3. 0. We spent a very agreeable day of it. Mr. Marsh is a sensible young Man & a Clergyman. Our Dinner was, boiled Skaite & fried Eels, Pees-Soup, Rump of Beef roasted, Ham & three boiled Chicken, with Turnips, french Beans, Cabbage & Potatoes.

2nd. Course, fricasseed Rabbits, a Couple of Ducks roasted, a batter Pudding with Currant Jelly, Cherry & Bullace Tarts. By way of Desert, we gave them some Grapes, Pears, Wallnuts and Filberts, with some Morelle-Cherries that had been preserved in Brandy. The Skaite that I sent to Norwich on purpose for turned out very indifferent & looked very dark. We had, Port, Sherry & Mountain Wines, with Strong Beer, bottled Porter and good Table-Beer.

Oct. 11, Saturday. . . . Miss Woodforde had a long Letter this Morning from Mrs. Custance at Bath, dated Oct. 8th. It came in a Cover to Mrs. Townshend at Honingham, whose Servt. brought it to Weston Parsonage. Mr. & Mrs. Custance & Family are all well. . . .

Oct. 13, Monday. . . . It being a fine Morning and our Arch-Deacons Visitation at Reepham, I drove Nancy over to Witchingham to Mrs. Jeans's, left her there to spend the Day with Mrs. Jeans, and I went on to Reepham and dined with the Clergy at the Kings Arms after we came from Church. The Archdeacon did not attend, the Official Mr. Baker acted for him. The Clergy that attended were the Preacher Mr. Girdlestone, the Reader Mr. Priest, myself, Mr. Whitmell, Mr. Sandiford, Mr. Carr, Mr. Church, Mr. Stoughton, and Mr. Maynard, we all dined at the Kings Arms and had a very good Dinner. Mr. Official [i. e. Mr. Baker], and Mr. Morphey, Deputy Register, also dined with us, so that we had eleven at dinner. We had for Dinner, boiled Leg of Mutton & Capers, Ham & two rost Chicken, a Surloin of Beef roasted, a rost Fillet of Veal, a very good plumb Pudding and a Bullace Pye. Poor old Mr. Whitmell looked very ill and is very weak. The Poor Man had a bad fall also



to day. Mr. Whitmell had a kind of Paralytic Shock this last Spring, which has much affected his right Side & makes him very weak, I am afraid that he will not be long one of this World. He is much esteemed by all People, being a very Worthy good Man. He is more than fourscore Years old, and till the beginning of this Year had no Illness whatever.<sup>1</sup> Paid Morpew after Dinner, for being absent from two Generals, which he paid for me at 1<sup>s</sup>/o<sup>d</sup> each 2. o. For my Dinner &c., we each paid o. 3. o. Mr. Jeans being absent I paid Morpew for him o. 1. o. I put up my little Cartu & Horse at Mr. Priests. About 4. o'clock we all broke up, got then into my Cartu and drove to Mr. Jeans, stayed there about a Quarter of an Hour, then took up Miss Woodforde and drove home to Weston, got home by six safe and well, thank God for it. The report or rumour to day was that there had been an Insurrection at Amsterdam, and that thirty Thousand Dutch had joined the French.<sup>2</sup> My Ankle pained me a good deal to day, have walked about too much upon it lately I believe.

Oct. 16, Thursday. . . . Sent Ben early this morning to Mattishall for Mr. Thorne to call on me the first opportunity. Nancy sent by him a Note to Mrs.

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Edmund Whitmell had been Rector of Norton *alias* Woodnorton All Saints, since March 31, 1750; his successor Thos. Bentham was presented to the living on May 26, 1795. (*List of Norfolk Benefices*, p. 25.)

<sup>2</sup> Rumour was only anticipating events. Actually the Dutch Republican Party in Amsterdam were secretly preparing to welcome the victorious French armies before whom the English—under the Duke of York—and the Austrians were retreating. Amsterdam welcomed the French troops on January 19, 1795. The Prince of Orange had already taken ship for England. The Batavian Republic was erected; 'trees of Liberty' symbolized the revolution, and shortly afterwards the Dutch Republicans found themselves the slaves of France. See Edmundson's *History of Holland*, pp. 342-6, and the foot-note to p. 353, vol. ii, of this *Diary*.

Bodham. Mrs. Custances Maid, Hetty Yallop, spent most of the Morning with us, she is not quite so well as she was. She however eat some bread & Cheese, & drank some bottled Porter. About Noon Mr. Thorne called here, soon after Hetty was here. I shewed my Ankle, he said there was no inflammation, he took off the Poultice which was put on about an hour before by his Order to Ben, and then he wiped the part affected with some dry Lint, then put into it some dry Lint and on that something like Turner's Cerat on Linen and then bound it on quite tight with a Bandage. Mr. Thorne would not have me eat any salt Meat nor drink any Wine & but little Malt Liquor. I might eat Mutton, Veal or Chicken & Puddings. He recommended me to lay my Leg upon a Stool as much as I could in the day time. He says, that there is a kind of Stuff in the part which must be eat down with some red precipitate before it can possibly heal, wch. I am to have from him this Evening with some Turners Cerate, which I am to send after. We had for Dinner to day a boiled Neck of Mutton and a rost Goose. I eat no Goose. Whilst we were at dinner Mrs. Jeans with her youngest Daughter Caroline, about 2. Years old, came to Weston Parsonage, eat a Piece of Goose, and soon after dinner, she took Nancy with her to Witchingham, where she is to sleep and to go with Mrs. Jeans to Morrow to St. Faiths fair. I sent Ben again to Mattishall to Mr. Thornes this Evening after some things from his House. My Ankle pretty easy all Day, rather more so this Evening, and I apprehend from the dressing it, & keeping the Leg up a good deal after it. It is not to be dressed again till to Morrow Morn'. Pray God! The Medecines made use of, may do good. Ben returned about

8. o'clock with the things from the Doctors and amongst other things he sent me some Calomel Pills, to take 4. every Night and to begin to night, but I would not take them to Night nor indeed any of them at any time.

Oct. 17, Friday. . . . Had a very indifferent Night of Sleep indeed, had the Cramp in my bad Leg so very bad, scarce slept an Hour all night—Owing I believe to my living Yesterday much below par. And if I had taken the four mercurial Pills, they would have half if not quite killed me, had I taken them last night. After breakfast, Betty dressed my Leg with some red Precipitate Ointment, and Turners Cerate. After that I eat one of my little Carraway Seed Biscuits and drank a Good Glass of warm Rum & Water, as I felt so queerly in my Stomach, & afraid of the Cramp there, and which seemed to do me much good. Living to low wont at all agree with my gouty Constitution and past fifty four Years of Age. Sent Briton this morning to Mr. Jeans about 9. o'clock to go with them to St. Faiths Fair to day. It was very foggy in the Morning, but after mostly fair. Briton did not return home till after 6. this Even'. He said it was a very small Fair, considering what it used to be. Nancy well pleased in going. Briton left her at Mr. Jeans, she comes home to Morrow to dinner, please God and the Weather.

Oct. 18, Saturday. . . . Had a very painful Night of it, my Leg, the part affected by the red precipitate, pained me extremely all Night long almost, it was like a Dog almost gnawing it. Am afraid it will turn out bad in the End, if it does not soon mend. Dr. Thorne however called on me about Noon and dressed my Ankle and gave me much comfort by saying that it was much better & in a fair way. There was more red

precipitate put on again. Soon after breakfast I sent Briton with my little Cartu to Witchingham after Nancy, who returned home to dinner, safe & well, and in high Spirits. Mr. Mellish made us a short Visit, calling on us as we were going to sit down to dinner. I asked him to dinner, but was engaged to Mr. Townshend. He had been to Mr. Priests at Reephham. Mrs. Bidewell brought our News from Norwich. Dinner to day, boiled Skaite, Tongue & Turnips &c.

Oct. 20, Monday. . . . About 10. o'clock this morning I walked to Church and married George Barnard & Mary Girling by Licence, for which I received 1. 1. 0. Had but an indifferent night of Sleep last Night my Ankle being painful most part of the night, and also towards the Morning had a gouty Pain on the great Toe of the other Leg, but not bad. It made me hobble however between both this morning. Dr. Thorne called on me about 1. o'clock and dressed my Leg. No discharge but kind of blood on the Lint appeared, the red precipitate Yesterday did more harm than good I apprehend and which occasioned so much pain in the night. The Doctor dressed it to day with yellow Basilicum only, except a little corner of the Wound where was a little speck of proud flesh on which he put a very small matter of red precipitate Powder, instead of Ointment & that covered with Basilicum Ointment. The red Precipitate Powder gave me much pain for a little time but after being dressed some time, my Ankle much easier. Busy most part of the Afternoon in making some Mead Wine, to fourteen Pound of Honey, I put four Gallons of Water, boiled it more than an hour with Ginger and two handfulls of dried Elder-Flowers in it, and skimmed it well. Then put it into a small Tub to cool, and when almost cold I put

in a large gravey-Spoon full of fresh Yeast, keeping it in a warm place, the Kitchen during night. Dinner to day, Breast of Veal roasted &c.

Oct. 21, Tuesday. . . . My Ankle very painful before it was dressed, but a good deal easier all the day after. I dressed it the same as Yesterday, with yellow Basilicum Ointment under, and a large plaister of Turners Cerate over that. My left Foot, the great Toe of it, was very painful this Morning when I got up, much swelled by the Gout. I was very uneasy this Morning about my Ankle, but glad rather than sorry in having the Gout. About Noon, Mrs. Jeans with a Doctor Jeans from Southampton a very agreeable, sensible Man, about my Age, called on us this Morning, and stayed about one hour with us & returned back to Witchingham. I drew off my Mead this morning and put it into a Barrell that holds about five Gallons, and placed it in my Wine-Cellar. The Cask not being quite full, I must make another Gallon. Hetty Yallop from Weston House dined, & Spent the Afternoon with us & after Tea, walked home again. Dinner to day, a boiled Chicken, Pork & Greans, a Piece of rost Beef and Apple Dumplins.

Oct. 23, Thursday. . . . Had a very good night of Sleep, got up in good Spirits. Neither of my feet scarce gave me any pain at all this Morning. Ankle perfectly easy & free from Pain. Dr. Thorne called here again this Morning, and dressed my Ankle, but quite different to what was before, only applying a bread and milk Poultrice, made Salve fashion, adding 2. or 3. drops of sweet Oil upon it, which is to be renewed every night & morning, till he calls again on Saturday next. His altering the dressing made me rather uneasy. The Wound appeared in a good healing way, but in the



middle of it there was a small Speck of a lightish Colour about the size of a small Shot, which the Dr. tried to raise up with his Probe, but it was so tough that he could not Move it at all.

Oct. 25, Saturday. . . . My Ankle not quite so easy I think this morning. Dr. Thorne called here about Noon, took off the pultice and applied a kind of Elder Ointment, melted and a very small bit of Lint dipt into it, & put on, with a Turners Cerate Plaister over that, and tied down tight with the old bandage of holland. It soon after became much easier. The poultice before, getting very dry since last Night, and rather fretting the Wound, I suppose made it uneasy. Mr. & Mrs. Jeans & two Infant Daughters with a young Man, by name Jeans, Son of Dr. Jeans, called on us this Morning for about a Quarter of an Hour. Dr. Jeans is gone from Witchingham for Southampton. His son is left behind to learn Norfolk farming. Dinner to day, Giblet Soup & Beef Steaks &c. Will Nelson the Carpenter was at work for me all day, in taking my new Frolic Deal Table, shorter, and making it about 3. Inches wider. Mrs. Bidewell brought our Newspapers from Norwich.

Oct. 26, Sunday. . . . We are afraid that our Maid, Molly, is with Child she looks so big, but she denies it very positively.

Oct. 27, Monday. . . . My Ankle still continues very finely, thank God. Dr. Thorne called here about 1. o'clock, and dressed it as he did before. He was surprised to see it so well, it was almost healed. He said that it required but very little more to be done to it. No pain at all to signify. Very dull, wet, melancholy day, but mild. Dinner to day, Cottage Pye, and a Neck of Mutton roasted. Betty, both the Washer-

women as well as ourselves say that our Maid Molly is with Child, but she persists in it that she is not.

Oct. 29, Wednesday. . . . My Ankle rather painful in the Night, having the Cramp a good deal in that Leg last night. At Eleven o'clock this morning I walked to Weston Church and married Joseph Bowles, Widower, & Sarah Nobbs, Widow, by Banns, for which I received only o. 2. 6. having had 2<sup>s</sup>/6<sup>d</sup>. before for publishing them. On my return home from Church, found Mr. Jeans and Dr. Thorne at my House, but they did not stay very long; after Mr. Jeans went, the Doctor dressed my Ankle, he said it did not look so well as when he saw it last. The Plaister I apprehend and as Betty said, was removed from its place. The Dr. dressed it with yellow basilicum Ointment and a Turners Cerate upon that. Whilst Mr. Jeans and Dr. Thorne were with us, James Pegg, called on me for the Taxes. Paid James Pegg, this Morn' in the whole 7. 10. 3. That is, Land Tax 1 Qr. for Rect. & Coll. Land 3. o. o. Window & House Tax, half a Year 2. 15. o. Male-Servant Tax, half a Year 1. 5. o. Horse Tax, half a Year o. 5. o. Ten per Cent on Taxes,<sup>1</sup> half a Year o. 5. 3. As I went to Church this Morning, I met Mr. Stoughton of Sparham, just by our Church, with his Pointers & Gun, in a Shooting Dress, going over our Parish to try if he could kill a few Partridges. I pressed him to take his dinner with us after he had finished, but he said he could not. If he had Sport, he would call in the Afternoon and leave us some Birds,

<sup>1</sup> i. e. Ten per cent. on the Assessed Taxes (those touching Householders and Establishments). This increase of ten per cent. had first been made by Pitt in 1791. In the 1793 budget the increased tax was made permanent. (See Dowell's *History of Taxation*, vol. ii, pp. 195 and 209-10. For accounts of the other taxes see the notes in preceding vols. of the *Diary* indexed under *Taxes*.)

which he did, a Leash, between four & five o'clock, but he would not come in, drank a Glass of Beer & off directly. He had a very nice green Cart at the Heart, for himself and Dogs &c—Quite a new Carriage, exceeding neat & convenient.<sup>1</sup> Dinner to day, boiled Beef, with Odds & Ends.

Oct. 31, Friday. . . . Dr. Thorne called again this morning, and dressed my Ankle the same as the last, only touching some part of the wound, where proud flesh seemed to be coming, with a small pencil brush in a quill, on which was something of a caustic nature, it made the part smart sharply for some time. The Doctor thinks it better. . . .

Nov. 1, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c., again at home. My Ankle near the same as Yesterday. In the night that part of it which the Doctor touched Yesterday, was rather painful—In the morning easy, and itched a good deal, dressed as Yesterday. Mr. Priest of Reepham called on us this Morning in his way home from Mr. Townshends, where he has been for the last two Days & Nights. He came walking, could not stay to dinner—Eat a small Biscuit or two & drank some Gin and Water, & then walked off for Reepham. Young Girling sent us a brace of Partridges. Mr. Jeans dined at Mr. Townshends, Thursday last. Mr. & Mrs. Townshend, Mrs. Cornwallis with Mr. Priest dined at Mr. Mellishs, Yesterday. Mr. Mellish treated very handsomely indeed. Wax Candles in the Evening, they all supped there. Sent Briton this Morning to Norwich after News. He returned home by dinner time, no Letters. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. James Stoughton was appointed Rector of Sparham on April 19, 1792, and was Rector for 48 years. (*List of Norfolk Benefices*, p. 25.)

Nov. 2, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. My Ankle quite brave this morning and free from pain all the last night, very easy indeed. As I was dressing my Ankle between one and two this Afternoon thinking that Dr. Thorne would not come, and my going to Church at half past two, the Doctor however came, and looked at it, and saying it was almost well, he dressed it only with the Turners Cerate Plaister. I read Prayers & Preached this Aft. at Weston-Church. Had a pretty full Congregation at Church. My Maid Molly has declared herself with Child, more than half gone. Molly is with Child by one Sam. Cudble, a Carpenter of the Parish of Coulton, and he says that he will marry her—The Man bears a fair Character—However, in her Situation, it is necessary for me to part with her as soon as possible. To Morrow therefore I intend at present to dismiss her. She is a very poor, weak Girl, but I believe honest. Dinner to day, Breast of Veal roasted &c.

Nov. 3, Monday. . . . After breakfast, I talked with Molly, paid her three Quarters of a Year and one Months Wages, which amounted in the whole to 4. 7. 0 and after packing up her things, about one o'clock she left my House, and walked off for Coulton where she is to be at Cudble's Father's, till such time that they are married. She says that Cudble made not the least objection to marrying her, she foolishly denied being with Child till the middle of last Week, and then obliged to, the Work becoming too much for her present Situation. I don't think that she is far from lying in by her appearance. For my own part, I have long thought her breeding. My Ankle, thank God, is now almost well, I dressed it in the same manner as the Doctor did Yesterday. . . .

Nov. 4, Tuesday. . . . Mrs. John Buck (late Bowles) gave us a fine live black Turkey Hen, to breed from. Mr. Press Custance sent us this morning by Daniel Breeze, a brace of fine Pheasants, a Cock & Hen. Breeze had some Victuals & drink & a Shilling. Between 12. and 1. o'clock, Miss Lloyd with Mr. Jeans's Children, & Nurse called here and stayed till near two o'clock, as did Dr. Jeans's Son William. Mr. & Mrs. Jeans went Yesterday to Norwich to attend the first Subscription Ball this Evening. Miss Lloyd is to be at their House till their return. Dr. Thorne also called on me this morning whilst they were here, and he dressed my Leg the same as the last time, but says, he must take his leave of me soon, as it is now all but well. Brewed another Barrell of Common Beer. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted &c. Suet-Pudding.

Nov. 7, Friday. . . . Mr. Corbould called on us between 2. and 3. o'clock and partook of a family Dinner with us, at five he sat off for Norwich, as he promised to return to Tea. Just as we had dined, Dr. Thorne called on us, I would have him eat a bit of dinner, but could not prevail, as he was in a great hurry to go to Mr. Green of Hardingham, who is very dangerously ill. The Dr. stayed very few Minutes. He asked to look at my Ankle, but I told him that I would not hinder him, as it was perfectly easy. We had for dinner to day, a boiled Rabbitt, Root of a bullock's Tongue boiled also, a Loin of Mutton roasted, and Apple-Dumplings. So much Rain falling of late have raised the Waters higher than have been known for many Years. A Bridge at Ling carried away. Took Brimstone & Treakle again this Even'.

Nov. 8, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to



Norwich with ten Coomb of Wheat to Mr. Bloomes at Frowse-Mills. A fine Sunshine Morning, small Frost, and cool. My Ankle so easy to day that I did not dress it. Sent by Ben a fine Cock-Pheasant to Mr. Corbould who with his Wife are at old Mr. Corboulds at Norwich. Ben did not return till after 6. this Evening, he brought back half a Chaldron of Coals. Mr. Bloome gave for my Wheat 27. Shillings per Coomb, and Ben brought me home in Cash for the same 13. 10. 0. Sally Gunton (a Girl about 20. Years of Age) who is at present in Mr. Townshends Service at Honingham Hall, came this Evening to offer her Service in the Room of my late Maid. The Townshend Family going to London next Week, wants her no longer. She appears to be a Girl that will do, and comes from honest Parents, tho' they are both dead. Dinner to day, Beef-Steak Pudding &c. Not much News on the Papers, only that one Hardy<sup>1</sup> tried this last Week for high Treason was acquitted. It was a very long Trial indeed at the old Bailey, it lasted full seven Days.

Nov. 9, Sunday. . . . Sent Betty this Afternoon to Mr. Townshends to enquire of their Housekeeper (Mrs. Griffiths) the Character of Sally Gunton, who Yesterday offered herself here, she returned before seven, & brought a satisfactory Account.

Nov. 10, Monday. . . . My Ankle, thank God for it, continues very finely, I did not dress it at all to day.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Hardy (1752-1832), the radical shoemaker and founder in January 1792 of the London Corresponding Society, of which the object was Parliamentary Reform. On May 12, 1794, Hardy, who was actively promoting a convention of other Reform Societies, was arrested on a charge of high treason. Hardy's trial began on October 28 and ended on November 5, 1794, with his acquittal. The crowd triumphantly drew him in a coach through the streets of London. (See *D.N.B.*).

No Doctor this day. Dinner to day, a Bullocks Heart boiled (according to Dr. Thornes recommendation) and a Pheasant roasted. N.B. a Bullock's Heart boiled is a Bullocks H. spoiled. We think a rost one far preferable. Briton had leave this Evening to go and see the Servants of Mr. Townshends at Honingham Hall before they go for London, which will be sometime this Week. The Pheasant tho' a Hen was very hard. It must be a very old one. Briton returned home in good time.

Nov. 14, Friday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Nancy breakfasted, & spent the Morning at home, abt. Noon she went over in my little Curricl to Mr. Jeans's at Witchingham and Briton with her, Briton returned about 2. o'clock, leaving her behind to stay all Night. I sent Mr. Jeans half a fine Skaite bought this Morn' and with which they were well pleased. Thank God! my Ankle continues finely & free from pain. Dinner to day, boiled Skaite & a fine Goose roasted. Bought some Skaite this Morning of Dalliday for three half pence per Pound, which old Brown of Cawston Yesterday charged me threepence per lb. Miss Lloyd is at Mr. Jeans's, which makes it pleasanter for Nancy. The Miss Priests with Miss Baldwin, Briton told me, were to be there to Morrow.

Nov. 16, Sunday. . . . About 11. o'clock, Mr. Willm. Jeans brought home my Niece, in Mr. Jeans's little Cart, He did not stay five Minutes before he returned back toward Witchingham, did not even come into House. Nancy dined, supped & slept at home. About 2. o'clock I walked to Weston Church and buried a little Boy of Hubbard's (who died almost suddenly on Friday last) aged 1. Year. Immediately after I had buried the Infant, I began the Afternoon Service, and

read Prayers and Preached, and had a pretty full Congregation. Dinner to day, Bullocks Cheek stewed, & a rost Chicken.

Nov. 17, Monday. . . . Mr. Maynard Rector of Morton called on me this Morning to ask my Advice, about one of his Parish by name Fisher, doing a kind of Penance<sup>1</sup> next Sunday for calling Mrs. Michael Andrews, a Whore. He shewed me the form issued out of the Bishops Court. It is called a Deed of Retractation. A foolish kind of Affair between the parties, and the expences of which to both must be high. At 2. o'clock this Afternoon I walked to Weston Ch. and buried poor old Natl. Heavers, aged 85. Yrs. Dinner to day, a boiled Fowl & a Neck of Mutton rosted. My Ankle, thank God, continues finely. I still keep a thin Linnen Bandage upon it. Had a fat Pig killed this Morning by Tom Thurston, weight 8 Stone 4. lb.

Nov. 18, Tuesday. . . . Sally Gunton, my new Maid, came to my House this Evening, and entered upon her new Service. Sarah Richmond went home to her Friends, having been here to help Betty, just a fortnight. Sally Gunton is to have per Annum 5. 5. 0. Very cold indeed all day with rough wind.

Nov. 22, Saturday. . . . Young Willm. Jeans called upon us this Morning About Serving Witchingham to Morrow for his Cousin. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton rosted &c. Bidewell's People brought our news from Norwich. My Ankle not so well as I could wish, am afraid there is a kind of humour arising from it.

Nov. 23, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers & Preached this morning at Weston Church, had but a small Congregation. After dinner, about 2. o'clock, I went for Great-

<sup>1</sup> For some account of public penance, see pp. 69-70, vol. i.

Witchingham, and there read Prayers & Preached for Mr. Jeans, he being gone to London. I put up my Curricl at Mr. Jeans's, and Mrs. Jeans and Miss Lloyd who is at Mr. Jeans's, went to Church with me, as did Willm. Jeans. A very small Congregation indeed at Witchingham Church. After Service I stayed but a short times at Mr. Jeans's and got back to Weston before 5. o'clock. Briton went with me in my little Cart. Dinner to day, Neck of Pork roasted &c. Mrs. Jeans was very civil & much obliged to me. It was a cold, damp, disagreeable Day, but no Rain.

Nov. 24, Monday. . . . To my blacksmith, John Buck, this Morning paid him, his annual Bill, which amounted to 4. 1. 6. being 1. 7. 6. More than the last Bill paid by me, as I have had a good deal of little Jobbs within doors done. Dinner to day, Fillett of Veal roasted &c. Mem.—Cavendo tutus.<sup>1</sup>

Nov. 25, Tuesday. . . . We like our new Maid, Sally Gunton, as yet very well indeed, she seems to be very active & steady. Dark and cloudy Day, but very mild for the time of the Year. Very foggy Morning.

Nov. 26, Wednesday. . . . I privately christened a Child of Willm. Large's by name William, this Morning at my House. The Child was born only this Morning about six o'clock. Dinner to day boiled Tongue, and some Veal-Cutlets, very well done by my new Maid, & hot Apple Pye.

Nov. 28, Friday. . . . Sent Ben round this Morning to my Parishioners to settle their Accounts with Me for Tithe, due at Michaelmas last past, on Tuesday

<sup>1</sup> See foot-notes to pp. 373 and 377, vol. iii, for John Buck, blacksmith and smuggler. The taxation of spirits had been greatly increased by Pitt, and smuggling was, therefore, at once more profitable and more dangerous; hence Parson Woodforde's observation.

Morning next. Ben returned about 5. o'clock in the Afternoon, half Seas over, that is, much in Liquor, but not very much. . . .

Nov. 30, Sunday. . . . Mem. a Primrose in my Garden in full bloom, seen by myself and my Niece.

Dec. 2, Tuesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. This being my Tithe Audit Day, the following People of my Parish paid me their Tithe, and dined & spent the Afternoon &c. with me at the Parsonage House. Revd. Carbould, John Girling, Willm. Howlett, Will. Bidewell, Thos. Reynolds Junr., James Pegg, John Buck Junr., J<sup>n</sup> Norton, Stephen Andrews Junr., Charles Hardy, John Mann Junr., John Baker, Esau Mordy for J<sup>n</sup> Peachman, John Buck Senr., Henry Case, Henry Rising, John Culley, Robert Emeris, Hugh Bush, John Heavers, Andrew Spraggs, Charles Cary. We dined about half past 3. o'clock and had for Dinner a Loin of Beef roasted, a fine Rump of Beef boiled, Salt Fish, a Leg of Mutton boiled, a Couple of Rabbitts boiled, & 5. Puddings, one plain and four plumb-Pudding, one Pound of Sun Raisins, one Pound of Suet, one Pound of Flour and two Eggs in each of the plumb Puddings. There were seven Bottles of Port Wine, six Bottles of Rum, one Dozen and half of Lemons, about 4. Pounds of Sugar & I know not how many Gallons of strong Beer which was very good, made use of. Mr. Corbould left us about 8. o'clock in the Evening having promised to return to Norwich to sleep. I recd. to day for Tithe &c. about—[left blank] Paid Stephen Andrews Junr. a Church Rate for the Year, at  $2\frac{1}{2}^d$  in the Pound 0. 3. 4. Paid Willm. Bidewell half a Year's Poor Rate to Michaelmas last at  $1^s/0^d$ . in the Pd. 1. 10. 3. To Stephen Andrews Junr. for Carriage of two Chaldron



of Coals from Norwich pd. 0. 10. 0. To Mr. Mann Junr., for ditto, pd. 0. 10. 0. My People did not break up till after twelve. Every thing however went off very pleasantly, very few disguised in Liquor. My new Table answered very well indeed. Recd. of Mr. Girling for 2. Acres &  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Turnips at 50<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, £6. 5<sup>s</sup>. 0<sup>d</sup>. Recd. of Henry Case also for Peas and Hay 2. 0. 0.

Dec. 3, Wednesday. . . . Widow Pratt called on me this Morning and paid me for Tithe 2. 8. 0. Barnard Dunnell also paid me for Tithe 2. 14. 0. About 1. o'clock Mr. and Mrs. Foster of Lenewade Bridge called on me, to desire me to write to the Warden of New College, on Account of the Fine set by the Society for this Year, upwards of 500 pd. They stayed till after 2. o'clock. I was obliged to go to Church to bury a Child of James Arthurtons, a little Girl, about 3. Years old which I did, and on my return home, met them on their way to Lenewade Bridge. Mrs. Foster then made use of the following expression that if matters were not easier, there would be no peace in Israel, which had better not have been mentioned—I thought it very weak. Dinner to day, Neck of Veal roasted &c. Mem:—

Paid Mr. Foster for Coll. Land	.	.	16.	0.	0
Paid him also for Flour &c.	.	.	4.	16.	0
			20.	16.	0
Recd. of him for Bark	.	.	2.	12.	6

Balance pd. £ 18. 3. 6

Dec. 5, Friday. . . . One Richd. Kittle, rider to the Norwich Iron Foundery called on me this Morning with a Bill for two cast-iron Box Scrapers in July last, pd. 0. 11. 0. Mr. Foster of Lenewade Bridge brought

me a brace of Pheasants this Morning. Very busy in writing Letters this Morning to the Warden of New College and to Caldecot in behalf of Foster, respecting the very high Fine set him. I wish it may be of Service to him, but I have little hopes. It has made me very uneasy since I first heard it. As not knowing scarce how to act, so as to steer clear of blame from every Quarter. Mr. Foster appears greatly depressed and says he shall be ruined. It grieved me to see him and that determined me to do what I could for him. Mr. Jeans is so inveterate against him, that he has been the principal Actor against him in it. Dinner to day, Codfish, fried Beef & Potatoes.

Dec. 6, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben this Morning to Norwich after News &c. Sent by him two Letters to be put into the Post-Office for me, 1. to the Warden of New-College, Oxford. The other to Thos. Caldecot Esq. Middle Temple. Ben returned about 5. o'clock this Afternoon. No Letters & little or no News stirring. The Lemons that Briton left behind last Week some where at Norwich 1. Doz. and half, were found and brought home to day. They were left at Bacons. Dinner to day, Cod Fish and a fine Goose roasted. Just as we were sitting down to dinner a Note of Invitation to dinner on Thursday next from Mr. Mellish was brought. We sent word that we were engaged. N.B. No Moon till after 9. at night. Received for Butter to day at  $1^s/0^d$ , 0. 2. 0. The same that I gave last Week to Mrs. Buck of this Parish, wanting some against my Frolic.

Dec. 13, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with 9. Coomb of Wheat to Mr. Bloome's at Trowse. He returned home about 5. o'clock this Afternoon.

Received of Ben, for my Wheat, at 27<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, 12. 3. 0.  
 Very little News on the Papers, none good. Dinner  
 to day, boiled Tongue & Mashed Potatoes. Busy all  
 the Morning almost in bottling two tubs of Gin, that  
 came by Moonshine this Morn' very early. Had a very  
 friendly Letter from the Warden of New-College,  
 Saml. Gauntlett, brought by Ben this Evening from  
 Norwich, concerning myself & Foster. Recd. for  
 butter to day at 1<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup> a Pint 0. 2. 0.

Dec. 16, Tuesday. . . . Brewed a Barrell of common  
 Beer to day. Mr. Symonds of Reepham, cleaned both  
 my eight day Clocks to day, almost the whole day after  
 them, he breakfasted & dined with our folks. When he  
 went away, which was in the Evening I paid him a Bill  
 for cleaning Clocks & Watch from October, 1789, to  
 Dec. 1794 1. 0. 6. cleaning my Clocks to day included  
 in it. I did not take any change of him out of a Guinea.  
 Dinner to day, fine Rump of Beef boiled &c.

Dec. 17, Wednesday. . . . Sent Lizzy Arthurton this  
 Morning a fat Chicken fit to dress, she being very ill  
 indeed, many think her in a decline, she very late  
 laid in. . . .

Dec. 22, Monday. . . . Gave to the poor People of  
 Weston against Xmas as usual, 57. in Number at 6<sup>d</sup>  
 each 1. 8. 6. Mr. Stoughton of Sparham about 3. o'clock  
 this Afternoon brought us a brace of Partridges, just  
 as we had sat down to dinner, having been shooting  
 at Weston all the Morning, and he dined and spent  
 the Afternoon with us, till near 6. o'clock. We had for  
 dinner to day, a boiled Tongue with Mashed Potatoes  
 and Turnips & a Loin of Veal roasted.

Dec. 24, Wednesday. . . . Last Night was so very cold  
 with a very high rough Easterly Wind and very severe  
 frost besides, that we had but very little Sleep. It

froze very sharp within doors all the Night. The Wind being high made our Windows rattle all Night being Easterly. It froze sharp in the back-house this Morn' after 11. o'clock. Water from the Well froze in a few Minutes. I think that I never felt the cold so much before.

Dec. 25, Thursday, Xmas Day. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. It was very cold indeed this Morning, and the Snow in many Places quite deep, with an E. Wind. About 11. this Morning I walked to Church and read Prayers & administered the Holy Sacrament. Had but few Communicants the Weather so bad. Gave at the Altar for an Offering o. 2. 6. Immediately after the Morning Service so far as before the administration of the H. Sacrament I was attacked with an Epileptic Fit, and fainted away in my Desk, but thank God! soon recovered and went through the remaining part of my duty. Mr. & Mrs. Girling, Mr. & Mrs. Howlett, Mr. St. Andrews, Mr. Hardy &c. &c. were much alarmed and were very kind to Me, during the fit and after. The Weather being so severely cold, which I could never escape from feeling its effect at all times, affected me so much this Morning, that made me faint away, what I always was afraid off for some Winters past, having often had many fears. Mr. Howlett after Service, very kindly offered to drive me home in his Cart, but as I was better I declined it, however hope that I shall not forget his civility. After Service was over, I walked into Mr. Stephen Andrew's House, and having warmed myself, I walked home and thank God, got home very well. Mr. Stephen Andrews & Family behaved very kindly. After I got home and had something warm to drink, I soon got tolerably well, but could only eat some plumb Pudding & a few

Potatoes. Nancy was much alarmed when she first heard of it. Eliz. Case, Widow, Ned Howes, Thos. Atterton Senr., Christ. Dunnell, Robert Downing, and my Clerk Thos. Thurston, all dined at my House to day being Christmas Day, & each had a Shilling o. 6. o. A very fine Sirloin of Beef roasted and plenty of plumb Puddings for dinner & strong beer after. Took some Rhubarb going to bed.

Dec. 26, Friday. . . . Thank God! had a pretty good Night last Night, and I hope am something better, but rather languid & low. Could eat but very little for dinner to day. Appetite bad. To Weston Ringers, gave o. 2. 6. To Christmas Boxes &c. gave o. 4. o. Dinner to day, Calfs Fry & a Rabbit roasted. I drank plentifully of Port Wine after dinner, instead of one Glass, drank 7. or 8. Wine Glasses, and it seemed to do me much good, being better for it.

Dec. 28, Sunday. . . . Mr. Foster of Lenewade Bridge called on me this Afternoon between one and two o'clock, just as I was going to dress for Church, and he stayed with me about half an hour, talking about the Fine that New-College had set him, that he had been to London and talked over the Matter with Caldecot that he had recd. Letters from the Warden &c. on it. I dont find by him that things are likely to be settled between him & the College—The Valuation of the College Estate &c. at Witchingham, made by one Mr. Bird of Norwich a Land Surveyor, & one of Character & Fortune, about four Years ago, and another Valuation taken this Year also, by a Mr. Dugmore of Swaffham, a Man much respected & esteemed as a Land-Surveyor. The latter makes his Valuation as Foster told me 133£ per Annum, more than the former, a very Material difference indeed.



It is very strange to me. I could not talk much upon the Occasion to day, as I was preparing to go to Church to do my duty. Mr. Foster seems to me to wish for equitable terms only. I walked to Church about a Qr. past 2. o'clock this Aft. and there read Prayers, Preached, churched one Woman, and published Banns of Marriage, between Mr. Corboulds Servant Maid, Anne Seale, and one John Burton very lately a Servant Man to Mr. Corbould. Recd. for publishing of them, by the Clerk, o. 2. 6. Returned to the Woman the fee for churching her. 'Thank God! I went thro' my duty pretty well to day. It was 5. o'clock this Afternoon before we finished dinner. Dinner to day, Bullocks Cheek stewed and a very fine Cock-Turkey roasted &c. We were full half an Hour after our usual time when Divine Service was in the Aft:—Many things ungain in roasting the Turkey happening, Sauce Pan falling down upon the fire, and the Jack going sadly &c. In the Evening, a little before I went to bed I took four Castile-Soap Pills. Rhubarb in them.

Dec. 30, Tuesday. . . . Little Sleep all night last Night, being very low in Spirits. However got up, about 10. in tolerable good spirits. Alldridge called here about Noon and I bought of him a Piece of Irish Cloth for Shirts, not very fine but very good of its price, 25. Yards at 2<sup>s</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> per Yard for which I paid him in Specie 2. 14. o. Mr. Corbould called on us about 1. o'clock, stayed about half an Hour with us & then went home. Dinner to day, hashed Calfs Head & a rost Rabbitt. I relished My dinner very well to day. Took three Castille Soap Pills only to Night, those already taken by me I think have done great good. Played at Cribbage again [with Nancy] this Evening, at Cribbage got two Rubbers of hers, won only o. o. 6.

## Anno Domini 1795

January 1st, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Paid my Butcher, Willm. Stoughton, this Morning a Bill for Meat, from October 1st 1794, to this Day, the Sum of 11. 3. 0. Recd. of Ditto, for a Calf 1. 4. 9. Paid him therefore on balance 9. 18. 0. Miss Corbould made us a Morning Visit, she came by herself and on foot. Recd. of Carpenter on France-Green for three Pigs better than 12. Months old at a Guinea apiece 3. 3. 0. Paid him for a Calfs Head, had last Week 0. 2. 0. Paid him also for the Calfs Pluck 0. 1. 9. N.B. The most Money I ever gave for either of the above and the pluck so bad besides, as barely eatable. Dinner to day, Ham & Fowls and a rost Rabbitt. Took three more Pills this Evening going to bed. Thank God! felt myself tolerable well all day.

Jan. 2, Saturday. . . . It froze very sharp all last Night & within doors. Miss Corbould dined & spent the Afternoon with us. We had for dinner, Giblet Soup, Pork & Greens, a Couple of Rabbits boiled & Onions, & a fine roasting Pigg. As Mrs. Corbould could not come, I sent her some Pigg. After Tea, I played with Miss Corbould at Back-Gammon. I beat her, but we did not play for Money. Miss Corbould left us a little after 8. this Evening. Mr. Corbould was engaged to day at Longham. Took 3. more Pills to Night.

Jan. 3, Saturday. . . . Mr. Stoughton of Sparham brought us this Morning a fine Hen-Pheasant, a Snipe, 2. Fellfares & a blackbird. He was going on to Norwich, stayed but a few Minutes. Recd. for Butter this Morn' at 1<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup>, 0. 2. 0. Briton went on foot to Norwich this Morn' after News. Very severe Frost indeed to day colder than Yesterday. It froze very

sharp within doors to day. The Air I think was never more cutting than to day, tho' quite a calm. It froze all the milk in the Dairy. Briton returned about 5. o'clock, not much tired. Dinner to day, hashed Mutton and a Goose roasted. Took only two Pills to night, going to bed. I was tolerably well thank God! to day, but rather sleepy. Briton brought us home some wild Fowl, a Couple of Teal, a Couple of Wigeon & a Wild Duck.

Jan. 4, Sunday. . . . The Frost, to day, More intense than hitherto, the Thermometer, below 40. in the Study, this Morning. The Barometer, exceeding high, up to 30 = 2. I walked to Church about 11. o'clock this Morning and there read Prayers and Preached. Miss Corbould was at Church and on foot, it was good walking & cheery, but most acute frost. Miss Corbould, on her return home with me from Church, walked into our house & warmed herself, but did not stay long. I bore the Cold thank God! very well to day, much better than I expected. I took a Glass of red Wine & Water with Nutmeg in it and Sugar, with some toasted bread, before I went out. . . .

Jan. 5, Monday. . . . Gave Nancy this Morn' a ten Pound Note 10. 0. 0. Paid my Servants their Wages this Morn', viz: To Ben. Leggatt, a Years Wages due this Day 10. 0. 0. To Bretingham Scurl, ditto 8. 0. 0. To Timothy Tooley, ditto 2. 2. 0. Gave him also extraordinary 0. 2. 6. To Betty Dade, a Years Wages 5. 5. 0. To Sally Gunton, 7. Weeks Wages 0. 15 0. Mr. Mellish made us a Morning Visit, he was going to Reephram to Mr. Priests to dinner. Dinner to day, boiled Pork & Greens & a Couple of Wigeon. In the Afternoon the Weather seemed likely to alter rather Milder if any thing than it was. The Horison in the

West on the going down of the Sun was remarkably red. I thank God! have felt better to day, than lately, tho' much inclined to sleep in the day time. That Sleepiness I cannot account for, unless from cold.

Jan. 8, Thursday. . . . Betty returned home this Evening from Mattishall. She brought but a very indifferent account of both Mr. Bodham and Mr. Smith. The former almost blind and has a Person to sit up every night with him. The latter, Mr. Smith, has such a bad humour in his Legs, that almost distracts him, very bad Yesterday.

Jan. 10, Saturday. . . . Very hard Frost, but much Sunshine tho' cold. We took a Walk to Hungate Lodge and made Mrs. Corbould a Morning Visit, stayed there till half 2. o'clock and then returned home to dinner. Chocolate & dried Toast brought round to us. Mr. Corbould and Miss were gone to Norwich. As we walked to Hungate, we met Mrs. Corbould and her little Boy in the Arms of his Nurse, coming to make us a Visit, but being near Hungate, they went back to Hungate with us.

Jan. 14, Wednesday. . . . Was but indifferent the former part of last Night, could not get to sleep very soon, and when I did, I got into a very great perspiration, and when I got up this Morning felt a good deal of pain in the great Toe of my right foot and swelled, looking very red. The Gout I suppose, and which I was not sorry for at all, as I found myself better in every other respect but that, felt myself more cheerful and lively. I put on a pair of Shoes lined with flannel this morning. Very cold indeed this morning, being a very hard Frost with cutting Wind from the East and some Snow. Dinner to day hashed Calfs Head & a Neck of Mutton roasted. Took another Pill this Evening.

Jan. 15, Thursday. . . . Got up this morning very bad indeed in the Gout in my right foot, could scarce bare to put him on the ground, and so it continued the whole Day and night, not free one Minute from violent pain. The Weather Most piercing, severe frost, with Wind & some Snow, the Wind from the East and very rough. We had some boiled Beef & a Hare roasted for dinner. I could eat but very little indeed for dinner to day. I had my bed warmed to night & a fire in my bed-Room. I never was attacked so severe before in my life. Obligated to put on my great Shoe, lined with flannel. The Weather very much against me besides.

Jan. 16, Friday. . . . Had a tolerable good night of sleep last night considering but found when I waked a good deal of pain in my foot and just before I got up I was seised with the Cramp in my bad foot, which brought on the pain in my foot very violently, worse than Yesterday if any thing. Most bitter Weather indeed, very hard frost within doors. Very strong Easterly Wind with Snow at times. We were invited to dine this day at Mr. Corboulds on some London Lamb &c. Nancy went up there in the little Cart and dined, but came home to Tea. I should have went also, had I been tolerably well. Only Mr. Jeanes and his Cousin Willm. there.

Jan. 19, Monday. . . . Had a very restless Night last Night, much hurried in my dreams, & perspired a good deal. The Gout better, tho' much pain, but not swelled so much. Quite heavy, dull and low and listless. I privately baptized a Child of Thos. Atterton Junr. this Morning at my House, by name John. Paid Briton, this Morning, for things o. 3. o. Paid Betty, ditto for ditto o. 11. 6. Paid Ben, ditto for



ditto I. II. 6. Mr. Corbould made us a Visit this Evening, but did not stay to drink Tea with us. Dinner to day a Couple of boiled Rabbits &c. I drank 6. or 7. Glasses of Port Wine after dinner and in the Evening, my foot pained me extremely and very much swelled, more than ever. The frost this Evening more severe than ever.

Jan. 20, Tuesday. . . . Last Night was the severest we have yet had. It froze so sharp within doors, that the milk in the Milk-pans in the Dairy, was froze in a Mass. Something better to day thank God! but still in pain. Dinner to day, Knuckle of Veal boiled &c. I think that this Day has been the coldest that ever I felt in my life, so cold within doors. To poor lame John Spraggs, gave o. o. 6.

Jan. 21, Wednesday. . . . Had a very good Night of rest, better this morning. My foot still painful, and foot & leg much swelled. The last Night, the most severest yet, extreme cold. So cold that the Poultry kept in the Cart-Shed and obliged to be driven out to be fed. . . .

Jan. 23, Friday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. The Weather more severe than ever, it froze apples within doors, tho' covered with a thick carpet. The cold to day was the severest I ever felt. The Thermometer in my Study, with a fire, down to No. 46. Very lame to day in both feet, but not very painful. Mr. Corbould made us a Morning Visit, very friendly. Dinner to day, odds and ends &c. Mr. Buck the Farmer brought us this Morning as a present an uncommon bird, shot by Mr. Emeris this Morning in Weston, not good to eat, called by what we could find out, a Pippet-Grebe, remarkable for the beautiful Feathers on his breast, like the finest white Sattin, with uncommon feet, about the size of a duck, only

much longer Neck with a long sharp pointed bill, something of the Moor-Hen species, a smutty back.

Jan. 25, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. The Frost this Morning more severe than Yesterday. It froze last Night the Chamber Pots above Stairs. Thermometer in the Study down to No. 40. this Morn. Barometer up high, No. 29 = 16. & very fair. The Cold so severe that it effects me very much. Thank God! however that the Gout is much better. No Service again at Church this day (and which should have been in the Afternoon) owing to the Cold. Dinner to day, a boiled Pike very good (and which Briton brought from Norwich Yesterday) and a nice small Neck of Pork roasted with Apple-Sauce. The French have taken all Holland, and the Stadtholder the Prince of Orange with his Princess and Family, landed at Yarmouth & Harwich, last Tuesday & Wednesday, and are all gone to London.<sup>1</sup> Dread & terrible times appear to be near at hand. Pray God! deliver us and send us an happy Peace. The Ice in the Pond in the Yard which is broke every Morning for the Horses, froze two Inches in thickness last Night, when broke this morning.

Jan. 27, Tuesday. . . . The Weather (thank God) much altered, a great Thawe and Air quite mild without, but still cold within. The Barometer much lower. Thermometer much higher. Mr. Foster of Lenewade-

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note p. 143 preceding. The frost was so intense in Holland that the French Hussars rode over the ice and captured the Dutch fleet in the Texel. It was during this disastrous campaign in Holland (1794-5) that Wellington had his first experience of active service—in command latterly of a brigade. When Lord Mahon long afterwards asked if experience in this campaign had been of service to him the Duke replied: ‘Why, I learnt what one ought *not* to do, and that is always something.’ (See Sir Herbert Maxwell’s *Life of Wellington*, vol. i, pp. 14-15 and foot-note.)

Bridge called on me this Morn'. Dinner to day, Loin of Veal roasted &c. Briton went to Reepham this Morn' to see his Friends, returned home in the Evening, he went on foot. The River much flooded by the Thawe. He never had a worse Walk in his Life he said.

Jan. 28, Wednesday. . . . The Weather much altered again and colder than Yesterday, with much Snow and Wind. It snowed almost the whole day with driving Wind. . . .

Jan. 29, Thursday. . . . Ben caught another Hare this Morn' with Snip. Paid Briton for things from Norwich last Saturday and other Matters, this morning 1. 17. 3½. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c. The Gout near the same as Yesterday, not worse. Thank God! am able to make use of my feet and walk tolerably well with very little pain attending. Very fair and cheerly most part of the Day, but frosty. In the Evening a very sharp frost indeed.

Jan. 31, Saturday. . . . As hard a Frost almost as we have had yet, it froze all the Milk in Dairy, it froze in the Bed-rooms. Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with ten Coomb of Barley to Mr. Bloome, he returned about four in the Afternoon. The Barley sold at 15/0. Coomb. He brought me a Note for the same, but no Cash. Very small Market to day at Norwich owing to the Weather. Dinner to day, beef Steaks & a fine Goose roasted.

Feb. 1, Sunday. . . . Much Snow Most part of the Day & very cold. No Service again this Day at Church, Weather so bad, and Myself still very unwell, tho' thank God! better. The Gout still remaining in my right foot. Very much overcast to day & Barometer much lower. Heard to day that Miss Corbould went off Yesterday for Norwich from Hungate-Lodge, to

reside at her Fathers, her Trunks &c. all gone also. I am very sorry for it, as she promised to be so good a Neighbour. What was the Occasion we know not, as yet. . . .

Feb. 2, Monday. . . . The Gout near the same, rather better than worse. Mr. Corbould did not go to either of his Churches Yesterday, on account of the badness of the Weather. A smart frost again this Evening & exceeding cold.

Feb. 3, Tuesday. Very cold all the Night and severe Frost, cloudy this morning with much Snow, it snowed almost the whole day but very fine Snow and bitter cold. Dinner to day, Neck of Veal roasted &c. The Gout a good deal better, walk almost as well as ever, very little pain, but still wear my gouty Shoes and intend so to do, as long as this cold, dreary, Lapland Weather continues, which at present seems more likely to continue than alter.

Feb. 4, Wednesday. . . . As cold a Night last night almost as we have had yet, it froze very sharp within doors, all the Milk & Cream froze. Extreme cold this Morning with cutting wind, and much Snow besides. Both Barometer & Thermometer very low. Many birds have been found dead, and the Rooks and Crows so tame that they come up to the Kitchen door where I feed my Poultry. Dinner to day, boiled Veal and Pork, &c.

Feb. 5, Thursday. . . . Sent Ben this morning after breakfast down to Mr. Girlings with a ten Pound Note for him to dispose of the same to the Poor of Weston as he should think Most to their advantage in this inclement Season. Very soon after I heard that Mr. Custance arrived at Weston House last Night from Bath. As cold and as severe a Frost as Ever, and now

not likely to alter, being very fair above. My Pain in my Foot rather worse this Morning. About 2. o'clock Mr. Custance very kindly came on foot (tho' the Snow was deep on the ground) to our House, and spent an Hour with us. Mr. Custance looks thin, but was in high Spirits. Miss Woodforde had a Note from Mrs. Custance. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted &c.

Feb. 7, Saturday. . . . Weather very near the same, if anything not so severe. Gout near the same, not worse. Mr. Maynard called on me this Morning and very kindly offered to serve my Church, as I was unable. I take it very civil and obliging of him, but my having sent a Servant to the Clerk before, to let the Parishioners know that there would be no Service to Morrow, I would not trouble him. Mr. Mellish called on us just as we were going to dinner in his way home from Weston House. I would have had him dine with us, but could not. . . .

Feb. 8, Sunday. . . . Weather much altered, very foggy and a cold Thawe, with very small Rain, all the whole Day. I hope to God that now We shall no more have any very severe Frosts this Year. Barometer fell, Thermometer rose. No Service this Afternoon at Weston Church. . . .

Feb. 9, Monday. . . . Reports of this morning were, that the French were seen off Yarmouth, a great Fleet of them. Gout, I thank God, somewhat better. Dinner to day, boiled Beef & a Skimmer-Cake. I sent a Note this Evening to Mr. Corbould to desire him to marry a Couple for me to Morrow—His late Man John Buxton & his Servant Maid Anne Seal.

Feb. 11, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. The Weather quite Mild this Morning, but I never knew the Ditches so full of Water as at present,



those about my House never so full before, my Pond in the Garden quite full, and the Water in the Well within four feet of the top of the square wooden frame on the brick Work, which is about 18. Inches from the Surface of the Earth, which is higher there than any other part of the Yard. The Water in the ditch in the Slope Garden which is adjoining to the Well ran into the Wall Garden some Way thro' a small Grate at the End of the same, and was up to the upper Cant-Rail of the Pales which separates the slope Garden from the Well-Yard. To a Woman of Ringland (by name Bales) whose Husband is very ill, gave o. 1. o. Mr. Stoughton of Sparham made us a Morning Visit. I asked him to dinner, but he declined. Brewed a Barrel of Table Beer to day. Dinner to day, a Piece of rost Beef &c. Gout near the same as Yesterday, if anything, better. We play back-gammon every Evening but Sunday from seven till eight o'clock. As the Days now get longer we must soon give up playing.

Feb. 13, Friday. . . . Dinner to day a Couple of Ducks roasted &c. Mr. Corbould called on us this Evening about 5. o'clock. I would have had Mr. Corbould drank Tea with us this Evening, but he promised to return home to Tea. Whilst Mr. Corbould was with us this Evening, Mr. Girling and Mr. Howlett called on me and stayed about an Hour with us, they came to talk about disposing of the Money collected for the Poor. The whole Sum collected, amount to 43. 12. o which was very great indeed—Mr. Custance gave 10. Pounds—Mr. Howlett 5.£—Mr. Corbould 3. Guineas—Mr. Girling 3. Guineas—Mr. Emeris 3. Guineas, and many others 1. Guinea apiece.

Feb. 14, Saturday. . . . This being Valentine's Day, gave to Children that were under 14. Years & could speak,

at one penny to each, 56. in Number o. 4. 8. Mr. Custance called on us this Morning. Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with Corn to Mr. Bloomes, 4. Coomb of Wheat & 6. of Barley. Ben returned about 5. o'clock in the Afternoon. I recd. no Cash for my Corn but had a Note for the same. Mr. Bloome gives me 30. Shillings Per Coomb for my Wheat, and 15/6. for my Barley, a very good price. Dinner to Day, Calfs Fry and Heart roasted.

Feb. 15, Sunday. . . . There was no duty at Weston Church to day, tho' I am much better than I have been, yet not quite well enough to go to Church, for fear of a Relapse. Divine Service to day would have been in the Morn'. There was forty Shillings worth of brown bread given to the Poor of Weston on Tuesday last, and fifty Shillings worth of the same given this day, from the late Collection for the poor. Please God! I hope to be able to go to Church next Sunday. Dinner to day, Loin of Veal roasted &c. Britons Father dined with our Folks to day. As Britons Father is a Baker, I spoke for him to the Gentlemen of the Parish, to make part of the bread which is to be given away, and he is to make 50. Shillings worth against next Sunday.

Feb. 18, Wednesday. . . . Very hard Frost with strong Easterly Winds, a black Frost. Every Vegetable seems affected by it. As cold this day almost, as any this Winter. I felt it before I got up this Morning, pain within me. It froze very sharp within doors all the day long. Dinner to day odds and ends, but very good. Had a fire again in My bedchamber to night, tho' I had left it off some time, bitter cold to night.

Feb. 19, Thursday. . . . Colder and More severe if any thing than Yesterday with very strong Easterly Wind,

and at times some fine Snow, but very little indeed of it, so little as not to make the least appearance of it on the ground. It froze very sharp again within doors all day. The Gout I thank God is better, & I feel better. Dinner to day, boiled Beef &c. Mr. Herring gave 3. Guineas on Saturday last to the Poor of Weston which now makes the Subscription for the Poor of Weston 46. 15. 0. The Money is to be laid out in Bread and Coal.

Feb. 20, Friday. . . . Colder than Yesterday, and a harder Frost, with very strong Easterly Wind & much Snow. It froze amazingly sharp last Night within doors. More severe this Morning than any this Winter. The Wind very piercing indeed all the day long. This Day is said to be the most cutting this Winter. It snowed the whole Day, but small & very drifting. The cold this day affected us this day so much that it gave us pains all over us, within & without and were even cold tho' sitting by a good fire. Dinner to day, a Couple of Rabbits boiled &c.

Feb. 22, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Severe, cold Weather still continues, froze again within doors. In the Afternoon some Snow. I am afraid now that we shall have more of it—The New Moon being now three Days old, and no appearance of a change. Gout much better. I fully intended to have gone to Church and done my duty this Afternoon at Weston-Church, but the Weather still continuing so very severe, and much Snow on the Ground, I thought too dangerous for me to venture to go into a damp Church and Walking upon Snow, having not left off my flannel lined second Gouty Shoes, therefore sent word to my Parishioners, that there would be no Service. There was fifty Shillings

worth of bread given again this day at 3. in the Aft. to the Poor of Weston. Britons Father baked the bread for this Day. I weighed two of the Loaves. The Sixpenny Loaf weighed—4. Pound, 5. Ounces. The Threepenny Loaf—2. Pound, 2. Ounces. The Bread seemed larger than Doughty's & lighter but not baked so much as Doughtys. Dinner to day Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c.

Feb. 24, Tuesday. . . . To one Saml. Neale, Husbandman of Lenewade Bridge, on losing of a Cow, gave o. 2. 6. Mr. Corbould called on us about 2. & stayed till 3. I asked him to dine with us on a fine Turkey but I could not prevail on him. He had been to Weston House to make Mr. Custance a Visit. N.B. I dreamt very much last Night of my losing my Hat. It is said to be a sign of losing a very near Friend. Dinner to Day, boiled Beef & a rost Turkey &c. Gout badly, and my Ankle also bad, I took off the family Plaister this Morning and the Scud came off with [it], and under that appeared a small Hole, the same as did the last time that it was bad, also the Ankle much puffed up. I then dressed it with some Yellow Basilicum Ointment and Turners Cerate on that, & bandaged it tight. [Opposite the entry of the dream a large hand is drawn pointing at it.]

Feb. 25, Wednesday. . . . Something better to day, thank God! Gout much better. Ankle I hope a little better, but has all the appearance as it had when it was bad before at the beginning. I dressed it as Yesterday. Quite Mild to day to what it has been, but very wet under-foot. We walked out this Morning on the sandy Walk for a little time, which we have not done before for near 3. Months. This being a day appointed for a general Fast, was very sorry that I was not able to do

my duty at Church this Morning, obliged to have no Service. Dinner to day, rost Beef, &c. Dreadful are the Accounts on the public Papers of the immense Damages done by the late inundations, all over the Kingdom; The lives lost, Cattle drowned, Bridges blown up, and the many thousands of Acres overflown, are quite shocking to read indeed.

Feb. 26, Thursday. . . . Mr. Stoughton of Sparham made us a Morning Visit, and very friendly offered his Assistance in serving my Church for me at any time. Quite a pleasant, warm Day, thank God! I gave Mr. Stoughton 4. of my Rarity Onions. Dinner to day a boiled Chicken & Breast of Mutton &c. I put a bread & milk Poultrice on my Ankle this Evening on the Basilicum Plaister, as it pained me a good deal & very much swelled and the same above the bandage, up part of the Leg. It made Me very uneasy in mind upon it. Before I went to bed I found it however better.

Feb. 28, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Ankle much easier, and discharged a good deal in the Night, but Gout worse and most in my Heel. Another kind of Winter come again upon us, hard Frost last Night, and Snow all this day long. Very cold indeed again. Thermom. 50. Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with Eleven Coomb of Barley to Mr. Bloomes. Nancy sent a long Letter to her Brother Willm. Ben returned between 5 and 6. this Afternoon, had a very bad Journey of it—As it snowed almost the whole time that he was out. I gave him a Glass of Gin immediately on his Return. I received in Cash for my Barley at 16<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>. 8. 16. 0. Nancy received a Letter from Miss Pounsett by him. Mr. Pounsett till lately had been finely, but was now



confined to his Bed in the Gout, owing I suppose to the severity of the Weather. My Sister Pounsett has been very poorly in her old Complaint, nervous Affection, have been to Bath and had Dr. Harrington's <sup>1</sup> Advice, who recommends Air and Exercise principally. She also acquaints us, that my poor Niece Nancy Clarke was dead, died above 3. Months ago—As she was never well, it was a happy change. Recd. for Butter this Evening at 1/o. o. 1. 6. Dinner to day, Beef Steaks &c.

March 1, Sunday. . . . Mr. Corbould read Prayers & Preached, and buried poor old Richd. Buck for me this Afternoon. Old Richd. Buck lived at Witchingham for some few Years, but very desirous of being buried at Weston, being his native Place, he was 86. Years old. Mr. Corbould also churched two Women this Aft. He called here as he went to Church. Very poorly in the Gout to day, being so very cold. The cold to day pinched me sadly tho' at home. Dinner to day, boiled Beef &c.

March 3, Tuesday. . . . Thank God! my Gout and Ankle both better this Morning. My Ankle discharged a good deal. I dressed it the same this morning as Yesterday. I think it looked better than it did. Nancy Spraggs brought us this Morning a Couple of Quart Bottles of her Mead. I gave her a good part of a Ham, the Wing of a Turkey and some Pies for her Children. Paid Betty this Morning for divers things 7. 2½. Hard Frost again last Night, but not within Doors. Cold raw Thawe about ten o'clock this Morn'. . . .

March 6, Friday. Mr. Girling called on me this Morning and paid Me, for 'Tithe for Mr. Custance for 1794 18. 18. 6. Mr. Custance, Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, and Mr. Stoughton of Sparham, dined & spent the After-

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. iii, p. 324, for an account of Dr. Harrington.

noon with us and stayed till after 9. o'clock at Weston Parsonage. We gave them for Dinner a Couple of boiled Chicken and Pigs Face, very good Peas Soup, a boiled Rump of Beef very fine, a prodigious fine, large and very fat Cock-Turkey roasted, Maccaroni, Batter Custard Pudding with Jelly, Apple Fritters, Tarts and Raspberry Puffs. Desert, baked Apples, nice Nonpareils, brandy Cherries and Filberts. Wines, Port & Sherries, Malt Liquors, Strong Beer, bottled Porter &c. After Coffee & Tea we got to Cards, limited Loo, at 1<sup>d</sup>. per Counter. I won at it abt. 0. 2. 0. It turned out a very indifferent Day of weather as it rained Almost the whole Day, was very sorry for it. All our Dinner was very nicely cooked indeed. Mr. Custance eat very hearty for dinner.

March 7, Saturday. . . . Mr. Jeans's Cousin William called on us this Morning, and stayed about half an Hour here. His chief business I find was to enquire about the price of washing things, our Neighbour Downing having washed some things for some French People now at Mr. Jeans's—Mrs. Jeans thinking that she charged too Much, but as we wash all our things at home, could not say anything about it. The whole was but a trifle and not worth making words about, especially also, as the poor Woman had a walk of 6. Miles to carry the things home after washing them. The Woman wanted the money for them when she carried them back, but she was not then paid and has not from thence to this time. . . .

March 8, Sunday. . . . Mr. Stoughton of Sparham did duty for me this Aft. at Weston-Church, being unable, tho' very desirous. Mr. Custance at Church and a large Congregation.

March 9, Monday. . . . Sent Ben over to Mattishall to

Dr. Thornes, to desire him to come to Weston-Parsonage, sometime to day. My Ankle very painful last Night & Leg very hot and swelled, could get but very little sleep. I dressed it this Morning with Poultice only. Dr. Thorne came to me between one and two, and the first thing I treated with him about, was his last Bill, which I paid him before I desired him to have his Opinion on my Ankle, pd. him 2. 14. 6. Then shewed him my Ankle, and he said that the Plaisters I had made use of were very improper & which made it entirely so very bad. The Poultice made use of this Morning was the only thing he approved of, and which he ordered to be continued. He bandaged up the whole Leg very tight as well as the Ankle, and to keep it so, keeping my Leg up as much as possible from hanging down. Dinner to day, Neck of Mutton boiled &c.

March 10, Tuesday. . . . Had a tolerable good night of sleep last Night. My Ankle this Morning looked less inflamed, but very raw, therefore painful till it was dressed. It was dressed the same as last Night, only a Poultice and bandaged up tight as before. Sent Ben this morning to Dr. Thornes after things. The Dr. sent back a wooden Frame to rest my leg upon, likewise some Goulard Water to mix the Poultice up with, likewise some Goulard Oil to put on the Poultice when spread, and also a small Box of alterative Pills to take 4. every night on going to bed, which he much wished me to take, tho' mercurial, as he said they would do much good. I cannot say that I like the thoughts of taking them. Miss Priest with her two Sisters, Mary & Sally, called on us this morning and stayed an Hour with us, eat some Cake & drank a Glass of Wine. I asked them to stay and dine with us, but they were

engaged to dine at Mr. Jeans's. During their being with us, Mr. Custance called and stayed near an Hour with us. Recd. of Willm. Bidewell for a sucking Cow-Calf about 8. days old o. 10. 6. Dinner to day Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c. Dressed my Ankle to night again as in the Morning. Going to bed I took four of the Alterative Pills, pray God! they may do me good.

March 11, Wednesday. . . . Did not sleep very well last Night, as the Pills I took last night occasioned rumblings within me. Towards the morning had better sleep, tho' My Ankle gave me some pain before I got up. After breakfast had griping Pains within, and which occasioned a strong Purging upon me, had two strong Stools before dinner, which made Me rather faint and very low. The Pills were designed to have a different effect. I dressed my Leg the same as last Night this Morn'. Dr. Thorne called here about Noon and looked at my Ankle, he made no alteration in the dressing but bound that & my Leg much tighter. The Dr. says that both Ankle & Leg are much less swelled. And as for what I told him about the Pills, he said that I had better drop them entirely to night and to Morrow Night to take two only, and that I might live as usual & drink little. I was poorly all the Morn', somewhat better in Afternoon. Dinner to day boiled Knuckle of Veal & roast Beef. Dressed my Ankle as this Morning to night, it looked much better than it did & in a good way.

March 13, Friday. . . . Ground covered with Snow this Morning, having a great deal of Snow in the Night. The Morning was fair but Air very cold. A 4th Winter. Ankle seems rather better I think this morning. Dressed it this morning as last Night, Poultice only. Dinner to day, Calf's Fry, &c. Sent a Note this

Evening to Mr. Maynard of Attlebridge to desire him to serve Weston Church on Sunday Morn' next. He was not at home, my Note left for him. Very cold this Evening, Frost and Snow again. Dressed my Leg this Evening as in the Morning.

March 14, Saturday. . . . Had a tolerable Sleep last Night. Ankle near the same as Yesterday, rather worse by night than day. Mr. Maynard called on me this Morning between 9. and 10. to let me know that he will do duty for me at Weston Church on Sunday Morn' next. He being in a Hurry, did not stay long. Recd. for Butter, at 1<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup> per Pint 0. 3. 0. Very cold again this Afternoon, smart Frost, and in the Evening Snow with rough Winds. Had a Fire in my bed-Room to night, and which I had left off some time, but being very cold took it up again this Evening. The Pills I took last Night gave me rather griping Pains this Morn' & purged me. I did not dress my Leg this Morning so soon as I used to do, as I expected Mr. Thorne, who about two o'clock came & then he dressed it as before. He says it is better and will soon be healed up. I told him about the Pills purging me, therefore I am to omit taking any to night. Dinner to day, boiled Beef & Skimmer Cake. Betty Cary brought our News from Norwich.

March 17, Tuesday. . . . Very cold & very damp. Water overflows the Ditches all round us. The Yard almost covered with Water. In the Well the Water is almost up to the Top. In the Garden the Water from the Slope Garden runs into the Great Pond. Land Springs about us were scarce ever known to be so full as at present. The Water in the Ditch by the road runs over it into College Pit. Thank God! had a tolerable good Night last Night. Ankle also I think



somewhat better to day. Dr. Thorne came again this Morning & looked at my Ankle. Says it is better & looks well. I told him again about the Pills and what I had done. Mr. Maynard dined & spent the Afternoon with us. We had for dinner, Pigs Fry, boiled Leg of Mutton & Capers, and a fine Hare roasted &c. I asked Dr. Thorne to dine with us but he could not. Soon after Coffee and Tea Mr. Maynard left us. Took only one Pill to night going to bed. So cold still, that I have fires in my Bed-Room every night again.

March 19, Thursday. . . . Did not sleep very well last Night. Ankle pained me. The Pill last night agreed very well with me. As I generally sleep on my right side, my bad Ankle being of the right side also, obliges me to lay it under which pressure rather frets it & makes it painful. On dressing it this Morning it appeared very finely. I was quite finely all day. Ankle much easier. Dinner to day a boiled Rabbit, & rost Pork, &c. My Ankle looked very finely indeed this Evening when I dressed it. Took two Pills going to bed to Night. It has been a cheary Day, but very cold Air. Smart Frost this Morning, drying Wind also.

March 21, Saturday. . . . Thank God! had a very good Night, got up this morning with little or no Pain from the Gout, my Ankle also looked tolerable well & in a fair way. My Foot which was swelled so much Yesterday Morn' as to oblige me to put on a larger Shoe, is this Morn' much abated, and very little pain in it. Dr. Thorne called on Me about one o'clock, and looked at my Ankle, said that I should make use of the common bread and Milk Poultice, instead of the Water and Oil that he sent to make it with. I walked out as far this Morn' as into Weston Great Field which I have not done before for three Months. Recd. for Butter

to day, at 1<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, o. 7. o. Dinner to day, Bullock's Heart roasted &c. Bidewells People brought our News from Norwich. Dressed my Ankle to Night as the Doctor directed a plain bread & Milk Poultice with a few Drops of common Sweet Oil to prevent its drying.

March 22, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, again at home. My Ankle in the Night rather pained me but not much. When I dressed it this morning I did not think that it looked so well as last Night, rather deeper and the Edges of the Sore rather thick, as if proud Flesh was arising. I dressed it however as I did last Night. The Gout (I thank God) was finely, not by any Means swelled so much as it was very lately. I walked to Weston-Church in the Afternoon and there read Prayers & Preached, which I have not been able to do before since Janry. 11th. Had a very large Congregation at Church to day. Mr. Custance at Church, as was my Niece. Fifty Shillings-worth of Bread given after Service to the Poor of Weston, out of the late Collection. Blessed be God! that I was able to do my Duty at Church again. I performed it with much more ease, than I thought myself able to day—The Day turning out very dry, though cold Air. Dinner to day, boiled Pork and a Turkey roasted. We did not dine till after Divine Service. I wore both of my largest gouty Shoes to Church to day. I think myself obliged to my Parishioners, for their expressions of kindness towards me in seeing me again at Church & performing My Duty there.

March 24, Tuesday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, with old Mr. Corbould and Miss Corbould, dined & spent the Afternoon & good part of the Evening with us till near 9. o'clock. We had for Dinner, hashed Calfs Head, a Couple of boiled Chicken and a Tongue, a

nice Neck of Pork roasted, a plain Norfolk Pudding, a Damson Pudding and hot Apple-Pye. After Coffee & Tea we got to Loo, all but old Mr. Corbould, I lost at it abt. o. 1. o. I rested my Leg very little to day indeed, and I seemed rather better for bustling about, than sitting still, being much easier to night. I took one Pill to night going to bed.

March 25, Wednesday. . . . My Ankle pained me a great deal in the Night had but very little sleep indeed, towards the Morning it got easier and when I got up, quite easy. I thought that Leg was very hot in the night. I dressed it without the red precipitate this Morn'. It does not seem to get better at all if not worse. I private[ly] baptized a Child this morning at my House of Joseph Bowles's, by name Benjamin. Mr. Thorne was here this morning and looked at my Ankle, said, it was better than it had been. I told him of the Pain it gave me of a night, he said, that might proceed from the heat of the bed. He gave directions to have it tightly bandaged and to make use of his Oil again in the Poultice. It looked I think finely this Evening on dressing it. I took another Pill this Evening going to bed. The Dr. recommends much the resting of my Leg. Miss Woodforde soon after dinner walked up to Mr. Corboulds and there drank Tea. Dinner to day, boiled Beef &c.

March 28, Saturday. . . . I slept very well (thank God) last night, my Ankle a little painful in the Morning early but not much. It looked in a fair way when dressed this Morning. Sent Briton early this Morning to Norwich with my little old Cart after News & many other things. Mr. Thorne waited on me again this morning and looked at my Ankle, applied a Caustic to it just touching the part with it with a small kind of

very fine hair Pencil in a Quill-Case. He much recommended again the resting of it. Briton returned between 4. and 5. this Afternoon brought a Letter for me from my Niece J. Pounsett acquainting us that Mr. Pounsett was very bad in the Gout, and not likely to live long, unless he was soon better, intreating me to come into the Country. My Sister Pounsett also very poorly. The Letter greatly distressed me, as in my present Situation respecting my Leg, it would be almost Death to me to undertake such a Journey. Mr. Custance sent us a brace of Snipes this Morning. Dinner to day, boiled Beef &c. My Ankle looked finely this Evening on dressing it. I took a little Rhubarb this Evening instead of the Pill.

March 29, Sunday. . . . My Ankle looked finely this Morning, when I dressed it, I dressed it the same as Yesterday. A Quarter before Eleven this Morning I walked to Church and there read Prayers & Preached. Mr. Custance at Church. More bread given. I hope my Walking to Church and standing so long upon my Legs will not greatly hurt my Ankle. Dinner to Day, some Fish (which Briton brought from Norwich Yesterday) and a Loin of Veal roasted. Nancy complained a good deal of a pain in her late bad knee to day—washed it with cold Water. Ankle looked very finely when dressed this Evening. Took two Pills this Evening going to bed. The Morning was disagreeable being a cold Haze. The Afternoon fair & dry, but cold Air.

April 1, Wednesday. . . . Ankle finely again this Morning. Sent Briton immediately after breakfast to Norwich to put a Letter into the Post Office for my Niece Jane Pounsett in answer to her last. Mr. Custance made us a Morning Visit, and whilst he was

here, Mr. & Mrs. Corbould with Mr. & Mrs. Warren Parents to Mrs. Corbould, called on us and stayed a full Hour with us. Briton returned about 4. o'clock. No Letter, which I was very glad of, as I hope by that Mr. Pounsett is somewhat better. Dinner to day, Loin of Mutton roasted &c. Nancy drank Tea this Afternoon with Mr. & Mrs. Corbould &c. at Hungate Lodge. She returned home to Supper. Ankle thank God! finely again this Evening. Took one Pill again to night, going to bed.

April 2, Thursday. . . . Sent Mr. Corbould a nice Pike this Morning. Paid my Butcher, Willm. Stoughton, this Morn' his last Quarter's Bill for Meat, the Sum of 10. 2. 6. Mr. Thorne called on me again this Morn' and dressed my Ankle, said it was much better. He put on a little red precipitate Powder. Dinner to day, 3. boiled Pike & fried Beef &c. Mrs. Jeans brought to bed Yesterday of a Son. Omitted taking a Pill to night, being G. Friday to Morrow, as I must go to Weston Church then. My Ankle this Evening when dressed, as if it wd. soon be well. But still I have at times pains in it, especially towards the Morn' when in bed.

April 3, G. Friday. . . . My Ankle looked very finely, but still have pain when in bed, much more so, than when up. It being Good-Friday, I walked to Church and there read Prayers. Nancy walked with me. Had but a small Congregation. Mr. Custance not there, nor any of Mr. Corboulds Family. We did not dine to day till half past 3. o'clock. We had for dinner a few Eggs & some Fritters. Very cold this Evening, but no Haze.

April 4, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. My Ankle near the same as Yesterday. Paid Betty this Morn' for divers things 0. 16. 5. Paid Briton, ditto for do. 1. 14. 6½. Mr. Thorne came again



this morning and dressed My Ancle, put the Caustic to it again. Dinner to day, Beef-Steaks &c. Charles Cary's People brought my Newspapers this Evening with two Letters for me from Somersett one from my Brother and another from my Niece Jenny Pounsett, both announcing the Death of poor Mr. Pounsett on Tuesday last, March 31st., entreating Me to come into the Country as soon as possible, but in my present Situation with so bad an Ancle, I cannot at present do it, and which I am very sorry for. As they have so many Relations near them is a Satisfaction to me. Am truly sorry for poor Mr. Pounsett, pray God he may be eternally happy. His Sufferings for many Years have been very great. Pray God direct My Sister and Niece for the best under their Loss. I know nothing of Mr. Pounsetts Affairs nor Will. He used to say that he had left my Sister & Niece all that he had, equally between them. It made us both low this Evening on the Occasion.

April 5, Sunday Easter-Day. . . . My Ancle looked better this Morning & pretty easy. I walked to Church this Morning, and there read Prayers, administered the Holy Sacrament and publickly christened two children of John Buck's the Blacksmith, privately named before. For an Offering at the Altar, gave o. 2. 6. Mr. Custance at Church & at the Holy Sacrament. Fifty Shillings worth of Bread given again to the poor. Dinner to day, as usual on Easter Day, a rost Loin of Veal. My Clerk, Tom Thurston, dined in the Kitchen. My Ancle this Evening when dressed looked near the same as this Morning, and very easy. Took one Pill this Evening going to bed.

April 9, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Ancle still finely and soon likely to be well. To

Willm. Bidewell, by his Son John, half a Years Poor Rate from Michaelmas 1794, to Lady Day 1795, at 1<sup>s</sup>/3<sup>d</sup>. in the Pound, paid 1. 17. 9<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted &c. Took another Pill this Evening going to bed.

April 11, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben this Morning to Norwich after News &c. Sent by him two Letters, one to my Brother, and another to my Niece Pounsett. Mr. Thorne visited me again this Morning and dressed my Ankle, pronouncing it to be now all, but well. The Poultice dressings dropped and some white Linament spread on Lint only applied. The Dr. used the Caustic again. Ben returned about 4. this Aft. No Letters. Recd. for Butter to day at 1<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, per Pint 0. 5. 6. Dinner to day boiled Pork, & hashed Calfs-Head. Did not dress my Ankle at all this Evening.

April 13, Monday. . . . Mr. Stoughton of Sparham made us a morning Visit. He has lately lost his Mother. He eat a Cake and drank a Glass of Mead. Ankle very finely this morning almost well. The two Pills I took last Night agreed pretty well. Dinner to day, Sirloin of Beef roasted &c. Took only one Pill to night, going to bed. Dressed my Ankle with only Poultice as last Night.

April 17, Friday. . . . Ankle very well this Morning, left off the bandage round the upper part of my Leg this Morning. Mr. Thorne called on me this Morning and saw My Ankle, applied the white Linament to it. Dr. Thorne took his leave of visiting me as a Patient of his at present, My Ankle being well. He recommended me to wash it with cold Water for some Days, and to continue on a bandage for some considerable time, for fear of hurting it. Dinner to day, Calfs Fry &c. Mr. Mellish of E. Tuddenham called on us this Afternoon, & drank Coffee & Tea with us.

April 19, Sunday. . . . I walked to Church this Morning and there read Prayers & Preached. Nancy walked with me. Mr. Custance also at Church. Fifty Shillings-worth of Bread given away again to the Poor this Morning at Church. We had a heavy Storm of Rain whilst at Church. Dinner to day Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c. My Ankle looked finely this Morning, I dressed it as I did Yesterday Morning. There still appears a black kind of Scurf upon it, but no pain. I feel rather spiritless and dull to day. I took two Pills this Evening going to bed.

April 22, Wednesday. . . . Ankle very finely, left off dressing it entirely, only the bandage is kept on, no cold Water this Morn' as I had the Gout Yesterday & still have this Morn'. Near the same as last Night going to bed. At Noon, got into my little Curricule and drove over to Mr. Mellish's of East-Tuddenham, spent about an Hour with him & returned home to dinner. I took Briton with me. Mr. Mellish was just returned from Norwich, being at a Ball, Concert and Supper there last Night, at the Assembly Rooms. Dinner to day, roasted Beef &c. Recd. a Letter this Evening by Mr. Custances Servt. from my Niece Pounsett, wishing us to come down as soon as possible. Nothing mentioned how Mr. Pounsett left his Affairs or at all abt. his Will. The Gout this Evening very indifferent. I took two Pills to night, going to bed.

April 24, Friday. . . . Ankle this Morning very finely, left off the Poultrice, but still kept on, both bandages. Mr. Custance sent us a brace of Cucumbers. Sent Briton this morning to Mr. Jeans & Mr. Stoughtons with Notes of Invitation to dinner on Tuesday next. Answers returned that they were engaged. Dinner to day, Neck of Mutton roasted &c. Had a Gouty Pain

in my left hand Wrist to day. Did nothing to my Ankle this Evening. Took only one Pill to night going to bed. Spring still backward, and Air quite stingy.

April 26, Sunday. . . . Thank God Almighty! got up this Morning very finely indeed, almost totally free from any pain whatever, either from Ankle or Gout. I walked to Church this Afternoon and there read Prayers and Preached. Had a very large Congregation. Mr. Custance at Church. Fifty-Shillings worth of Bread given to the Poor again to Day after Divine Service. Dinner to day, Loin of Veal roasted &c. Mr. Stoughton of Sparham sent us a fine Pike this Evening by his Servant Man John. Gave John for bringing it o. 1. o. I took another Pill again to night.

April 28, Tuesday. . . . Had a good night last Night & got up brave this Morn'. Mr. Custance, Mr. Mellish, and Mr. Corbould dined and spent the Afternoon with us. Miss Corbould would have come also, but about Noon the Weather turned very indifferent; rough Wind with Rain. Study Chimney smoked so much, let the fire down. We gave them for Dinner, a fine boiled Pike with Smelts fryed and put round it, hashed Calfs Head, a boiled Tongue & mashed Potatoes, nice Peas-Soup, a very good Saddle of Mutton roasted, Maccaroni, Damson Pudding, Tarts and Raspberry Puffs and some Custards. Desert, Oranges, Olives, Almonds & Raisins &c. Mr. Jeans & Mr. Stoughton were invited, but were engaged before. We did as well as we could. After Tea & Coffee Mr. Corbould left us, being obliged to return to Norwich, his little Boy being under Inoculation and has the small Pox very full, they are very anxious and uneasy about him.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Custance, Mr. Mellish, Miss W. and

<sup>1</sup> For some remarks on inoculation see vol. i, pp. 40-1.

self sat down to Quadrille and played till 9. o'clock and then Mr. Custance & Mr. Mellish left us. Mr. Custance came on foot & returned on foot back quite alone. He brought us a fine Levant Cucumber. At Quadrille this Evening won o. o. 6.

April 29, Wednesday. . . . Paid James Pegg this Morning for Land-Tax and other Taxes 7. 10. 3. Ankle and Gout very finely thank God. Dinner to day, heat-ups of all Sorts &c. Took my last Alterative Pill this Evening, going to bed, being the last of two Boxes.

May 1st, Friday. I breakfasted, supped and slept again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. It being a fine Morning I drove to Reepham to the ArchDeacon Yorges Visitation, and there dined and spent the Afternoon at the Kings-Arms Inn there, with the following Clergy and Laity, viz. Clergy, The Arch-Deacon, Mr. Johnson Preacher, Mr. Priest Senr., St. John Priest, Reader, Mr. Maynard, Mr. Jeans, Mr. Church, Mr. Stoughton, Mr. Bulwer, A Mr. Munnings and myself; Laity, Mr. Repton, Mr. Addey, Mr. Holley, Mr. Munnings Junr., and Mr. Morphew. Mr. Johnson gave us a very excellent Sermon indeed, very apropos to the times. St. John Priest read Prayers for his Father. Dinner, boiled Leg of Mutton, a Piece of rost Beef, Fillet of Veal roasted, two Fowls and a Pigs Face, and a plumb Pudding &c. Dinner, ordinary and extraordinary, I pd. o. 4. 6. I stayed till 6. o'clock in the Evening and then drove back to Weston and Briton with me. Briton being in Liquor was very saucy in his return home with me. He is treading fast the steps that poor Will. Coleman did before he was obliged to be sent away. I called at Witchingham at Mr. Jeans, but Mrs.



Jeans never appeared, which I think was very ungentle indeed.

May 2, Saturday. . . . We sent some Raspberry-Puffs & some small Cakes to Mr. Custance this Evening by Betty. Bidewells People brought our News from Norwich. There was a Mobbing to day at Norwich, on Account of the dearness of Provision &c.

May 4, Monday. . . . Nancy breakfasted, supped & slept again at home. About 11. o'clock this morning being fine Weather Nancy drove over to Witchingham to make a Visit to Mrs. Jeans after her lying in. Briton went with her. I soon after took a Walk to Weston House. Mr. Custance not being at home I walked on to Mr. Jeans's, stayed there about half an Hour and then walked back to Weston to dinner. They pressed me very much to stay and dine, having Company to dinner (Mr. Priest, Mr. Mellish, Mr. Stoughton and some Ladies from Mr. Priest) but I would not, as we were not invited before, as the others were. Miss Woodforde stayed and dined with them. On my return home, found Mr. Corbould at my House coming to take a Family Dinner with me, and he dined, spent the Afternoon, drank a Dish of 'Tea with me, and at 7. in the Evening, returned to Norwich. I gave him for Dinner, part of a Neck of Veal boiled with Pork & Greens, a Piece of rost Beef, Pudding &c. Nancy returned home about 8. in the Evening.

May 7, Thursday. I breakfasted, supped & slept again at home. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. It being a fine Morning, I got into my little Cart at 8. o'clock and drove away to Norwich taking Briton with me, and we got to Norwich by half past 9. o'clock. Then went about shopping, paying of Bills &c. till 4. in the Afternoon, and at five got into my Cart again and

drove home to Weston. We got home before 7. o'clock and having had no dinner, eat some cold rost Beef & enjoyed it. Called on both the Priests, on Mrs. Francis, and on Mrs. Corbould &c. Met Sr. Edmd. Bacon at Norwich. Went and saw Mons. MacMohuns riding School. Went also to Kymers Gardens by the River, and saw the Club which call themselves the Sons of Neptune go down the River in their Boats to Trowse which they do annually the first Thursday in May, that being the first time for the Season. They had a very good band of Music with them. Paid at the Gardens for some refreshment o. o. 6. At Blacks, Confectioner, for a Cake &c., pd. o. o. 4½. Paid at Mrs. Francis's to Mr. Steward for Procurations & Synodals, Pension to College &c. 3. 2. 7½. For Quit. Rents recd. by me for Coll. pd. 3. 4. 6. Called at Buckles & paid a Bill of 2. 4. 6. Called at Mrs. Brewsters & paid a Bill of 4. 19. 10. Mr. Corbould & Father I did not see, being gone out of Town for the whole day, saw Mrs. Corbould & Miss. A great many Soldiers at Norwich indeed. Sent a Letter to day to my Niece Pounsett. Put on Boots to day for the first these 5. Months. With all my walking about Norwich to day my Ankle did not pain me nor swell, tho' no bandage.

May 8, Friday. . . . Had a fat Pig killed this Morn' Weight, 10. St. 7. lb. Recd. of Mr. Emeris this Afternoon for two Acres of Turnips very indifferent ones, sold to him 2. 12. 6. Bottled off this Afternoon a five Gallon Cask of Mead-Wine, made about Michaelmas last. Mr. Mellish sent us a Note this Evening of Invitation to dinner on Monday next. . . .

May 10, Sunday. . . . Mr. Custance sent us last Night, by Knights's Son, a Cucumber, Asparagus and Some

Radishes, gave Knights's Son for bringing them o. i. o. I read Prayers & Preached this Afternoon at Weston Church, had a very full Congregation. Mr. Custance not at Church this Afternoon being gone to Sr. Edmund Bacons, he went Yesterday. Sr. Edmd. Bacon was at Weston House Yesterday. Miss Woodforde was at Church to day. Fifty Shillingsworth of Bread given away again to day to the Poor of Weston from the late Subscription. I was a little strange when at Church to day for a little time, but soon found myself better. Dinner to day, Fore-Quarter of Lamb roasted &c.

May 11, Monday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Priest and Miss Mary Priest called on us in their Carriage about one o'clock as they were going to dine at Mr. Mellish's with us, and it being a very windy day, Mr. Priest very civilly gave up his Seat in the close Carriage to my Niece and I drove Mr. Priest in My little Curricule to Mr. Mellishs and there we all dined with Mr. Mellish, and also with Mr. and Mrs. Howman of Hockering. We had for Dinner, Harrico of Mutton, Gravey Soup, Fillet of Veal roasted, boiled Tongue, Pigeon Pye stale, Patties and a baked Pudding. 2nd. Course. Fore Qr. of Lamb, Asparagus, Trifle, Tarts & Jellies. After Coffee and Tea, Nancy went home with me in my Curricule and very cold indeed we found the Wind on our return, quite piercing cold. We got Home before nine o'clock. Mr. & Mrs. Priest, with Miss Mary, we left to sleep at Mr. Mellishs. Mr. Mellish lent Nancy a large thick driving Coat.

May 12, Tuesday. We breakfasted, dined & spent part of the Afternoon at home, and about 3. o'clock we sat off for Norwich in a Kings Head Chaise from Norwich which I had ordered when at Norwich last. We got to

Norwich safe & well thank God! about half past four. Briton rode with the Driver. Nancy I put down at Mr. Corboulds in St. Giles's. I went on to the Kings Head where I supped and slept. Nancy supped & slept at Mr. Corboulds. I drank Tea & spent the former part of the Evening at Mr. Corboulds, with him, his Daughter Miss Corbould, and young Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, and my Niece. After Tea we got to Quadrille. I won o. 1. o. The Family at Mr. Corboulds whilst I was there was made very uneasy, their Servant Maid being taken in labour and soon miscarried, which she denied to the last. She was about a Qr. gone. She was under Inoculation also at the time. Mr. Martineau<sup>1</sup> the Dr. was immediately sent for, and soon came, and things were made more easy. At 9. went to my Inn, supped and went to bed.

May 13, Wednesday. I breakfasted, supped & slept again at Norwich. From breakfast till dinner time I walked about Norwich, shopping and paying Bills &c. To Smith, Mercer, paid a Bill of 5. 15. o. To Manning, Brazier, paid ditto of o. 9. 9. To Bacon, Stationer, paid ditto of o. 8. o. To Sudbury, Upholsterer, paid ditto of o. 14. 6. To Burroughs, Breeches-Maker, ditto of o. 12. o. To Forster, Taylor, pd. ditto of 2. 1. 6. To Yollop, Haberdasher, for half a Dozen Pound of Kensington or London Mould Candles, four to the Pound, paid him o. 5. o. To Gingerbread, &c. to day, pd. o. 1. o. To 5. Box Tickets for the Play this Even' pd. o. 15. o. I dined and spent the Afternoon at old Mr. Corboulds, with him, Miss Corbould, Mr. & Mrs. Corbould, and Miss Woodforde. We had for dinner, Some Cod-Fish, boiled Beef, fore-Qr. of Lamb &c. After Coffee & Tea, Mr. and Mrs. Cor-

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. i, p. 292.

bould, Miss C. Miss W. and self, walked to the Theatre and saw the Comedy, called A bold Stroke for a Wife, with the Musical Entertainment called Marian performed for the Benefit of Mr. & Mrs. Chesnut. After the second Act, the Theatre began filling, and upon the whole a decent House, 45. 0. 0. After it was finished I walked back to Mr. Corboulds with the Ladies & then walked to my Inn & supped. A great many Soldiers in Norwich at this time. A great number of Officers at the Play to night. Settled my Corn & Coal Account with Mr. Bloome this Morning at the Kings Head, viz: I paid him for Coal for the last Year 11. 0. 0. Recd. of him for Corn sent to Norwich 24. 15. 0. Balance of Accounts, recd. by me then 13. 15. 0.

May 14, Thursday. I breakfasted at the Kings Head again and after breakfast went to Mr. Corboulds and took a Walk with the Ladies & Mr. Corbould Junr. a shopping &c. To half a Yrd. Cambrick pd. 0. 5. 3. To Cullington, Barber, for a new Wig pd. 1. 1. 0. To Frank, Barbers Man, for a Xmas Box &c. 0. 2. 6. To a Bundle of Asparagus at Norwich, 28. in Number only, and which weighed two Pounds & a Qr., the largest I think I ever saw, pd. 0. 1. 0. To a Pr. of grey Beaver Gloves, pd. 0. 1. 6. About 2. o'clock this Afternoon, I packed up my things, paid my Inn Bill, got into a Chaise, and then called at Mr. Corboulds, took up Nancy, and we went off for Weston, got home by 4. o'clock to dinner, and thank God, safe and well. At the Kings Head for Chaises &c. pd. 1. 13. 0. To Servants at the Kings Head, gave 0. 5. 6. To the Drivers of the Chaises, both times 0. 3. 0. To divers odd things, Rum & Water &c. pd. 0. 0. 9. I had one of the first Bed-Rooms to sleep in. Mr. Custance slept in the Room next mine last Night.



May 15, Friday. We breakfasted, dined, supped & slept at home. Mr. Wilson, Curate of Ling, who has a Wife and a large Family, being exceeding poor and owing entirely to his own indiscretion & dissipation, called on me this morning to borrow 3. or 4. Shillings of Me. I let him have immediately a Guinea 1. 1. 0. Dinner to day—boiled Pork & Greens, Souce, &c. Sent Mr. Custance this Evening some Raspberry Puffs and some small Cakes, having baked to day. Sent Mr. Corbould about 2. Hndrd. of Hay this Even'.

May 20, Wednesday. . . . We walked to Mr. Corboulds in the Evening and drank Coffee & Tea, with him, Mrs. Corbould, and a young Man by name Dawes, in the farming Line. They all walked home with us & stayed abt. 10. Minutes. Had a Letter by Mr. Custances Servant from my Niece Pounsett this Evening Post-Mark, Taunton, but dated from Cole.

May 22, Friday. . . . Got a little Cold, with a soreness of the Throat. Took some black Currant Robb for it. Our Maid Betty also complained of a sore Throat. I gave her black Robb, and some Port Wine. Sent Mr. Custance this Morning, four Quart Bottles of our Mead, made in October last. Dinner to day, Leg of Lamb roasted &c. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould drank Coffee and Tea with us this Evening, after Tea we played a Pool at Quadrille, at which I won 0. 0. 6.

May 23, Saturday. . . . Mr. Custance gone to London to day in a great hurry, it is supposed on Miss Durrant's <sup>1</sup> intended Marriage.

May 25, Monday. . . . Mr. Stoughton of Sparham, Mr. & Mrs. Priest with Miss Priest and Miss Mary Priest of Reephams, Mr. Jeans, Mr. & Mrs. Corbould with

<sup>1</sup> His niece: see foot-note, vol. ii, p. 345, for the relationship between the Custances and the Durrants.

Miss Corbould, and young Pynsent Longdale, dined & spent the Afternoon with us. We had for Dinner, First Course, a fine Pike boiled & fryed Gudgeons, Gravey-Soup, Saddle of Mutton roasted, Veal Collops, boiled Tongue and Spinnage, and garden-stuff. 2nd. Course, Four rost Pigeons, Asparagus, the Charter, Gooseberry Tarts, Cheesecakes, and Maccaroni. Desert. Oranges, Almonds & Raisins, & Nutts. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards. I lost o. 1. 6. My Company left us about 9. in the Evening. Mr. Maynard gave me a Call this Morning. Merry making at the Heart to day, raffling for a Gown, &c. &c.

May 26, Tuesday. . . . The Members of the Purse-Club with a Drum & Fife, made their Annual Perambulation. They called at my House, and I gave them as usual o. 10. 6.

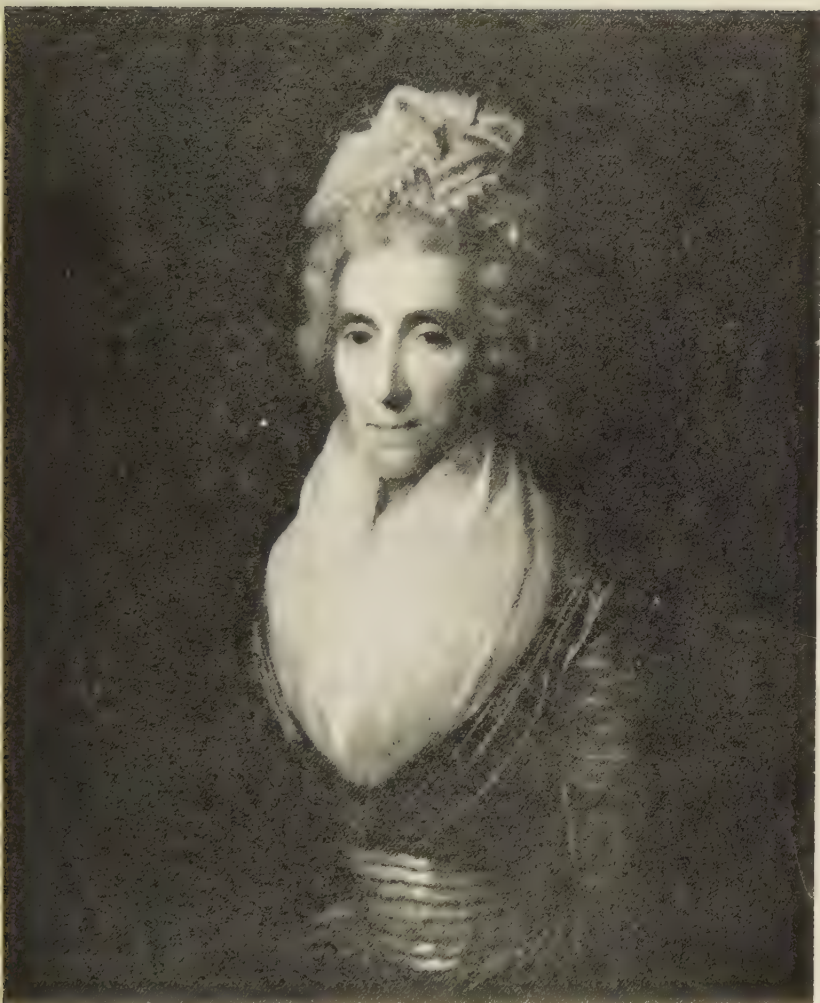
May 28, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, and with them a Mr. Sutcliffe and his Sister, made us a Morning Visit. Mr. Sutcliffe is a young Clergyman of Norwich and is a Fellow of Bennet-College in Cambridge. Dinner to day boiled Beef &c. We should have walked out this Afternoon and drank Tea at Mr. Corboulds but the Rain prevented us. A most gracious Rain and extremely wanted as we have had no Rain to signify for the last six Weeks. Every thing wanted Rain in short. Lord make us thankful for it now 'tis come.

May 30, Saturday. . . . Recd. a Letter this Evening from Mr. Custance in London, desiring me to send as soon as possible a Copy of the Register of his Son, George, who has got an appointment on the Madrass Establishment in the East Indies, & is going for the Indies soon. Mr. Custance likewise informed me that he had

been to Bath and back again since he left Weston. The News & Letter came from Billy Bidewells.

May 31, Sunday. . . . Sent an Answer to Mr. Custances Letter this Morning, by Js. Knights from Weston House who went with it to Norwich immediately after he had breakfasted at my House. I read Prayers, Preached and christened a Child this Afternoon at Weston Church. Had a very large Congregation. Mrs. Corbould and a Miss Sutcliffe who is at Mr. Corboulds and Nancy were at Church. Fifty Shillingsworth of bread given away again this Afternoon at Church to the Poor of Weston. I was hurried rather at Church, being nervous. Mrs. Corbould & Miss Sutcliffe rested at our House on their return home from Church.

June 1, Monday. . . . About half past 8. o'clock this Morning, just as we had breakfasted, who should come to our House in a Kings-Head-Chaise from Norwich but Mr. Custance and his Butler, Rising, and they breakfasted at Weston Parsonage. Mr. Custance with us and Rising in the Kitchen. The Driver also had his breakfast here. Mr. Custance said that he had been near five Hundrd [miles], since last Friday se'ennight, he looked much jaded. He made a very good breakfast, had little or no refreshment Yesterday. He stayed with us about an Hour and half and then walked to Weston House by himself. He took Leave of us also, as he sets forth to Morrow Morn' about 8. o'clock, back for London where he stays a short time with his Son George and then both return to Bath, where Mr. Custance remains for some time, after his Son is settled. To the Woman, Lancaster of Tuddenham, having lost some things which [s]he had bought at Norwich, on her way home from a Waggon,



MRS. BODHAM, née ANNE DONNE (1748-1846)





gave o. 2. 6. Mr. Custance brought us this Morn' two Maccarel. Dinner to day, Maccarel & a Shoulder of Veal. Mr. & Mrs. Bodham sent over to enquire after us this Morning from Mattishall—Want to see us. Mr. Custance sent us this Evening a large Piece of a fine Wedding Cake sent from London to Mr. C. on the Marriage of Miss Durrant (Daughter of Lady Durrants) and Captain Swinfen of Swinfen-Hall in the County of Stafford, eldest Son of — Swinfen, Esq. Very curious devices on the Top of the Cake. . . .

June 3, Wednesday. . . . I drove Nancy over to Mattishal to day about Noon, and we dined & spent the Afternoon at Mr. Bodhams, with him, Mrs. Bodham, & Miss Anne Donne, Daughter of the late Revd. Castres Donne who is about thirteen Years of Age, a very nice Girl.<sup>1</sup> We found Mr. Bodham very bad indeed, much altered, As helpless almost as an Infant, being led about and also fed, besides being almost blind. He looks fresh, and eats and drinks heartily, he complains at times of violent pains, and very sleepy by day, but very restless at nights, is had out of bed often in the Night. Poor Mrs. Bodham does everything for him, poor Woman I heartily pity her, she bears it up wonderfully well. We had for Dinner a few Maccarel, some Veal Cutlets and a small Green-Goose & Asparagus, and some Gooseberry Tarts. No Potatoes, Greens &c. Mr. Bodham is very hasty & often swears at People. He is certainly at times deranged & talks wildly. Tho' he has been so ill & so long, yet is continually having Workmen about him & spends great Sums that way, in building up and pulling down, besides buying Carriages to go out in, but will get into

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. ii, p. 234.

none of them. We saw a prodigious handsome new full-bodied Coach, sent from London half a Year ago. He behaved very civil indeed to us & glad to have us. We stayed till about 7. in the Evening & then returned home. In our way to Mattishall, we called on Betty England at Tuddenham & had some Chat with her, but we did not get out of our Carriage. We got home about half past 8. o'clock, & soon after Mr. Corbould with Miss Sutcliffe called at the Gate in their Carriage & we had some Chat with them there.

June 4, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. About half past 9. this Morning I got into my Curricule and drove over to Norwich, it being the Kings Birth Day. Nancy would not go—So I took Briton. Got there about a Quarter after Eleven. Saw all the Soldiers both Horse & Foot drawn up in the Market Place about one o'clock, and the foot fired three Vollies, and the Cannon on the Castle Hill also fired thrice. Soon after the Soldiers fired, they marched off. And those Soldiers lately returned from the Continent, marched to Coe's late Quantrille's Garden, where a Subscription Dinner was provided for them, of rost Beef & boiled Beef &c. Pies, and plenty of rost Legs of Mutton. I walked thither on purpose to see them at dinner, & a pretty Sight it was. They all had Porter to drink. A great deal of Company were in the Gardens to see them. I gave to go into the Gardens o. 1. o. Paid there for refreshment o. o. 3. The Soldiers dined at 3. & at 4. marched off for the Barracks, all things conducted very well. About one Thousand Soldiers were supposed to be there. The Subscription for them was said to be 100. Pound. For some Crabs, Gingerbread &c. paid abt. o. 2. o. Saw all the Norwich Priests at one Place or another. Saw

also at Mr. Priests Senr.—the Revd. Mr. Howes of Fordingbridge, son of the late Mr. Howes of Hocker-ing. I bespoke a new grey Coat of Bath Coating. At six o'clock this Evening I left Norwich and got home to Weston by eight and then dined & supped at the same time. I was but very little fatigued considering walking about so much &c. Saw old Mr. Corbould at Norwich to day. My dinner was some Mutton Steaks. June 5, Friday. . . . Much better for my ride Yesterday & Exercise. . . .

June 7, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers & Preached this Morning at Weston C. Miss Woodforde at Church this Morning. Thirty-Shillingsworth of Bread given to the Poor of the Parish this Morning at Church. Dinner to day, Loin of Veal roasted &c. After Tea this Evening we took a Walk to Hungate Lodge to enquire after Mr. & Mrs. Corbould, they having been nearly killed last Night coming from Norwich in their high Gig—Some part of the Carriage breaking let down the same, which frightening the Horses, they ran away. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould both jumped out, and very fortunately neither of them recd. any injury. The Horses ran two or three Miles before they were stopped. The Gig very much shattered. It happened between the Turnpike & Cossey. We met Mr. & Mrs. Corbould going to take a Walk, just by their own House, we walked back with them, stayed about half an Hour and then they walked back with us to the Parsonage, stayed abt. 10. Minutes, drank a Glass of Mead apiece, and then returned home to Supper.

June 8, Monday. . . . Mr. Corbould sent to borrow a Horse for to Morrow, but we could not lend him one, as poor Rodney is badly. They are fond of borrowing,

Wales's Feather in the middle, of Gold, with a continual Firing of Cannon & Guns. Flaggs flying through-out the Mayors Parish &c. A vast Number of People at Norwich to day indeed. At 3 o'clock I went to the Wool-Pocket and eat part of Mutton Chop quietly, but very tough. For a Lobster to carry home 3. lb. 3 Qrs., pd. o. 2. 6. To Gingerbread Nuts &c. &c. paid & gave abt. o. 1. o. For my Dinner paid and gave o. 2. o. About 6. o'clock this Evening I got into my Curricule & drove home to Weston by 8. to Supper. The Main Spring of my Watch being broke I left it at Amyots to be repaired by Saturday next. I fagged about a good deal to day.

June 17, Wednesday. . . . Poor Mrs. Stephen Andrews, to whom I administered the Holy Sacrament on Friday last, departed this Life this Morning, about 9. o'clock. I hope she is happy, her Sufferings were very great and for a very long time. It is a happy release for her. At Betty Cary's Shop for a Qr. of lb. Tobacco, pd. o. o. 8. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould called on us this Morning. In the Afternoon we walked up to their House and drank Coffee & Tea, & played a Pool at Quadrille with them, I neither won or lost. Nancy won at 2<sup>d</sup>. a fish of them o. 2. 6. Dinner to day, a boiled Tongue & a green Goose. Knights Son brought us some Strawberries from Mr. Custance's Garden, gave the Lad o. 1. o. Nancy complained of a Cold & sore Throat this Even'.

June 21, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers & Preached this Morning at W. C. Between 4. and 5. this Afternoon I walked to Weston Church, and buried poor Mrs. Step. Andrews—A very crowded Church, almost quite full, a great deal of Company attended, she was 54. Yrs. old. There were Pall-Bearers, & Hatbands &

Gloves given. I had a black silk Hatband & a pr. of grey Beaver Gloves. It was upon the whole a very handsome Funeral. Dinner to day, a Fillet of Veal roasted &c. There was thirty shillingworth of Bread given to the poor again at Weston Church—This the last.

June 22, Monday. . . . About 11. this Morning, I got into My Curricule & drove to Norwich and Briton with me. Got to Norwich about 1. o'clock. Went to Oxley the Hatter and paid for a Hat for Briton o. 19. o. Paid him also for 2. Pair of Stockings o. 8. o. At Graham's for 1. Pair of Silk Stockings, pd. o. 14. 6. Took 3. Places in the London Coach thro' Bury on Wednesday Evening next at 9. o'clock. Paid the whole Fare 2. Insides at 25. o. 2. 10. o. Paid also for one Outside o. 16. o. For Gingerbread Nutts, Porter &c. pd. & gave o. 10. o. Left Norwich about 6. o'clock and got home safe & well thank God to Weston by 8. found on my return Mrs. Corbould and Miss Corbould at home. They stayed but a very little time. I made Dinner & Supper together to day. Had a fine pleasant Day & not at all fatigued.

June 23, Tuesday. . . . Very busy in packing up things again to Morrow. Nancy's Cold something better to day.

June 24, Wednesday. We breakfasted & spent the Morning at Weston P. About 2. o'clock this Afternoon we got into a Norwich Post-Chaise from the Kings Head and got to Norwich about 4. o'clock where we dined & spent the Afternoon and part of the Evening till 9. o'clock. Briton went with us. Paid at the Kings Head for our Dinners and Chaise to Norwich, Driver, Waiter &c. 1. 5. 2. At Bakers for Luggage to London 4 Stone at 1<sup>s</sup> 9<sup>d</sup> per Stone paid o. 7. o. About 9. this



Evening we got into the London Coach from the Angel Inn & went off for London. Briton went in the outside. We had four inside Passengers besides: one very stout Man of Norwich by name Hix, a Grocer, one Single Lady, and a comical Woman and a little Boy her Son—The Child sick most part of the night as was the single Woman. We dropped the Stout Man at Bury & took up a very agreeable one. We travelled all Night some Rain.

June 25, Thursday. We breakfasted at Braintree in Essex, pd. there 3. 0. To refreshment in the night paid 0. 6. Coachman to Braintree gave 2. 6. We had a fresh Coachman to go to London. We dined at Rumford, pd. and gave there 6. 0. We got to London (thank God) safe & well about 5. o'clock this Evening to the Angel Inn in the Strand, where we drank Tea, supped & slept. Gave the Coachman to London, 2/6. Guard 1/0, 3. 6. Coach to the Angel from the Swan & 2. Necks 2. 0. At the Swan for some Porter &c. pd. 0. 5.

June 26, Friday. We breakfasted, dined &c. at the Angel in St. Clements. After breakfast we walked about London, making Visits and going about shopping. In the Afternoon we went to Mr. Webbs near blackfriars Bridge and drank Tea with him, Miss Webb, and Miss Hussey. Saml. Woodforde breakfasted, dined, supped and spent the Evening with us at the Angel. He went with us to Mr. Webbs & drank Tea there.

June 27, Saturday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at the Angel. After breakfast we walked to Mr. Goujon's, and after staying there some time, Mrs. Goujon, myself and Nancy got into one of the Hackney Stages and went to Hackney to see my Sister Clarke

& Son Saml. After staying with them about an Hour we returned back to Town as we went. Was very sorry to see my Sister Clarke look so bad & so decrepid, her Son near the same, talked very sensibly but dressed very shabby. For some refreshment at Hackney & Coach Hire pd. o. 5. o. We got back to London about 3. o'clock and dined & spent the Afternoon at Mr. Goujons with him, his Wife, Miss Sally Pope, and young Tom Woodforde from the Charter House. We had for Dinner a Turbot rather stale, rost Beef &c. After Tea Miss Pope & Tom Woodforde took a Walk with us about the City. Tom went home with us to our Inn and supped & spent the Evening with us, as did Saml. Woodforde. Laid out to day at different Shops &c. 11. 1. 3. as follows—2. Pieces of striped Muslin 20. Yards for my Brothers Wife & Mrs. R. Clarke 3. o. o. 3. full bordered Handkerchiefs o. 13. 6. 2. Pr. of white Stockings, 7<sup>s</sup>/o<sup>d</sup>. Ribbon 1<sup>s</sup>/6<sup>d</sup> o. 8. 6. Cotton or Callico for Sister White o. 16. o. Two Pound of best green Tea 1. 4. o. Bill at the Inn 1. 10. 3. Places to Bath in part 2. 2. o. Lent Nancy a Guinea, other things 1<sup>s</sup>/6<sup>d</sup>, 1. 1. 6.

June 28, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. at the Angel Inn. Saml. Woodforde and Tom Woodforde dined and spent the Afternoon with us. Tom also supped & spent the Evening with us. As we go early to Morrow Morn' I paid my Bill at the Inn this Evening from June 25, Servants included & Beds &c. 3. 10. 8. To other Expences to day for Fruit &c. o. 2. 6.

June 29, Monday. At half past 3. o'clock this morning we got up and at 4. we got into one of the Bath Coaches from the Angel and went off for Bath. Briton on the outside. We breakfasted at Maidenhead, paid

there o. 3. o. Dined at Newbury and there changed Coaches and Coachman, for our Dinners &c. pd. o. 7. o. At Newbury for remaining fare & Luggage 2. 4. 6. To the London Coachman & Guard o. 2. 6. We got to Bath (thank God) safe & well this Evening between 9. and 10. o'clock, we were put down at the White Hart in Stall Street kept by Pickwick & Wife and there we supped and slept, and a very excellent House it is, everything so good & neat &c. Sent to Portland Place to enquire after Mr. Custance and family soon after our arrival. They were all very well and all of them at home. They desired our Company to Dinner to Morrow. To the Coachman from Newbury to Bath o. 2. o.

June 30, Tuesday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at Pickwicks. After breakfast we walked about Bath till 2. o'clock. Then dressed ourselves and walked to Portland-Place and dined & spent the Afternoon with Mr. & Mrs. Custance, Mr. Hambleton & George Custance, Miss Custance, Miss Emily and their Governess. The Whole Family were luckily all at home. We had for Dinner boiled Salmon, rost Leg of Mutton, Peas, Cutlets &c. We found all the Family very well indeed. After Tea we returned to our Inn to Supper, and in our return home we called on Mr. & Mrs. Atfield in Gay-Street, stayed there abt. a Qr. of an Hour. Mrs. Atfield is own Aunt to Mrs. Jeans of Witchingham. Mr. & Mrs. Custance & Family very glad to see us. We brought a Diamond Ring for Mr. Custance that he left when at Weston last on his dressing Table.

July 1st., Wednesday. We breakfasted, and spent the Morning at Bath, after breakfast we walked about shopping. To two large grey silk Barcelona Handker-

chiefs which I intend for my Sister Pounsett & Daughter pd. 1. 4. 0. To other things omitted to be put down pd. 0. 3. 6. Mr. & Mrs. Custance with Miss Custance & Miss Emily called on us this morning at Pickwicks at the White-Hart and stayed about half an Hour. Soon after they went we packed up our things, put ourselves into a Chaise and sat off for Cole. At our Inn pd. 1. 7. 6. Chaise to old Down also pd. 0. 19. 3. To Servants at the Inn & Barber, gave abt. 0. 9. 0. We got to old Downe about 3. o'clock and there we dined. To the Bath-Driver gave 0. 1. 6. For our Dinners at old Downe pd. & gave 0. 7. 6. Chaise from old Down to Ansford Inn & Horse 0. 18. 0. Got to Ansford Inn about 6. o'clock, sent for my Brother &c. from Cary. My Brother and Wife came immediately and drank Tea with us, about 8 o'clock we got into an Ansford Inn Chaise & went for Cole, where got (thank God) safe and well before nine to my Sister Pounsett's, where we supped & slept. Found my Sister Pounsett but indifferent, very low. Her Daughter very well. Sister White & Daughter Sophia were there and well. To Drivers gave 0. 3. 0. At Ansford Inn for Tea & Chaise, paid 0. 8. 0.

July 2, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. at Cole-Place, as did also my Sister White and Daughter Sophia. Dinner to day, a fine Piece of Salmon &c. Gave Robin Colley this Morning 0. 1. 0. To old Arnold for Salmon at 9<sup>d</sup>. per lb. pd. 0. 4. 0. My Brother & Mr. Robt. White spent the Aft. with us.

[There is not much of note in the entries for the next ten days. Parson Woodforde's face swells up and his leg causes him anxiety; the Cary and Ansford relations visit him and various old friends; Sister Pounsett (one of whose tenants, Mr. Jennings, calls

'rather merry') begins Haymaking and is paid 2 Guineas by a Mr. Ward 'for an Hgshd of Cyder'; on July 12th 'much better thank God than I have been of late'.]

July 13, Monday. We breakfasted & spent the Morning at Cole. Gout almost gone. Leg where I scratched it, indifferent. Nancy paid me this morning the Guinea she borrowed. About Noon, I walked with Nancy, and Miss Pounsett to Castle-Cary, and there we dined & spent the Aft. at Mrs. Richd. Clarke's with her, my Brother and Wife, and my Sister Pounsett. My Sister Pounsett rode there. In the Evening I walked back to Cole with Miss P. and supped, spent the Evening and slept there. My Sister being afraid to ride back, walked home rather late and Mr. Robt. White with her and he supped and spent the Evening at Cole. We left Nancy at Cary to spend a few Days at Mrs. R. Clarkes. Dinner to day a Couple of Chicken boiled & a Pigs face, Peas, a Leg of Mutton roasted and Tarts. Paid my Brother to day for Carriage which he paid for me for our large Trunk from Norfolk o. 10. o.

July 14, Tuesday. . . . To poor old John Coles of Cary, who used to go on foot to Oxford for me after my Horse gave o. 1. o. Dinner to day boiled Beef, fried Souce &c. I was bad in my Stomach to day & vomited a good deal.

July 15, Wednesday. . . . Leg bad, put on a Poultice, it made me uneasy. To Jon. Marshall for fish, paid him o. 4. 6. Dinner to day Fish & a Piece of rost Beef &c. N.B. The Breana Fish we had to day, very good indeed. Had a Letter from my Maid Betty at Weston Parsonage this Evening, all well thank God there, pd. o. 1. o. Mr. Sam Pounsett spent the Afternoon, supped and spent the Evening with us, till 11. at night. My



Stomach brave to day, relished my dinner. My Sister P. complains a good deal, more so than I think she ought. She eats too gross things, too rich for her Stomach.

July 16, Thursday. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at Cole. Leg better thank God! this morning, poulticed it again. Andrew Russ's eldest Daughter & Brother Edward called at Cole this morning. My Brother made us a Morning Visit, as did old Mr. Dalton. Just before dinner, Jenny Woodforde, with a Mr. Allen Lyde and Wife out of Devonshire called at Cole and stayed about a Quarter of an Hour. Dinner to day Whiting-Pollett boiled & cold rost Beef &c. Farmer Clements Daughter of Wick drank Tea at Cole. A Mr. Mitchel of Bruton an Attorney, quite a Stranger called at Cole this Evening. He pays his respects to Miss Clements. Her Parents very much against it.

July 20, Monday. I supped and slept again at Cole. Leg bravely. At 8. o'clock this Morning I walked with my Niece Pounsett to Castle-Cary, and there we breakfasted at Mrs. R. Clarkes with her, my Brother & Wife, Nancy Woodforde and my Sister Pounsett, who rode on horseback behind Phillip. After breakfast I walked with my Brother to Gallhampton and spent an hour with Willm. Woodforde and Wife. Saw the Hermitage which Willm. lately [built?], in which he has shewn great Taste. From thence we walked to the Parsonage at Ansford and spent half an Hour with Mr. Frank Woodforde & Wife. Then we walked to Mr. Robt. White's where we dined and spent the Afternoon with him & Wife, Sister White, My Brother's Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke, my Sister Pounsett & Daughter and Nancy Woodforde. In the Afternoon I walked over to my Uncle's and made him & his Wife a Visit, both of whom considering their

Age, my Uncle being in his 90th. Year and his Wife in her 84th. were very well. My Uncle can see and walk without a Stick and has all his faculties remarkably well. I stayed about half an Hour with them, & returned to Mr. Whites. I called in at many Places in Cary. We all walked back to Cole after Tea, got home abt. 9. o'clock. My Niece Pounsett was crying, & fretting all the way back to Cole which made it very unpleasant. She never enjoys herself in Company, and does not like to go from Cole, very uncommon in one so young. . . .

July 21, Tuesday. . . . Fine Weather for the Hay—My Sister almost finished. Andrew Russ's Son Edwd. who is apprenticed to my Cousin Tom Woodforde of Taunton called here this Afternoon but did not stay long. He goes for Taunton on Thursday.

July 22, Wednesday. . . . Js. Woodforde, Son of Nancy's Mother, called here this Morn'. John Burge's Daughter, Eliza, a nice Girl, dined and spent the Day with us. Old Mr. Dalton made us a Morning Visit. My Brother spent the Aft. with us. Mr. John Dalton called here in the Evening. Willm. Woodforde called here in the Evening about 9. o'clock, supped & spent the Evening with us. Dinner to day, Knuckle of Veal boiled, Pork & Beans, a Couple of Chicken roasted & a Currant Pudding.

July 23, Thursday. I breakfasted, supped & slept again at Cole. About Noon I went with my Sister & Daughter in a Bruton Chaise to my Brothers at Cary, and there got out, and gave up my Place to Mrs. Woodforde & Mrs. Clarke, and they went with my Sister & Jenny, to Willm. Woodforde's at Gallhampton. I walked with my Brother & Js. Woodforde of Allhampton to Willm. Woodforde's where we dined

& spent the Afternoon with him, his Wife, Nancy Woodforde who is there at present, my Brother's Wife, Mrs. Clarke, my Sister Pounsett & Daughter. We returned as we went. Got home to Cole between 9. and 10. o'clock. We had for Dinner 3. boiled Chicken & a Ham, a Leg of Mutton boiled & Capers, a Couple of Ducks roasted and some Peas &c. Gave the Bruton Driver o. 2. 6.

July 26, Sunday. . . . After Tea this Evening, I walked up to Mr. Samuel Pounsetts, stayed about half an Hour with him, and returned home, he having some low Company.

July 27, Monday. . . . Had a very bad Night of rest last Night, very ill, in the Gout indeed in my right hand, very much inflamed & very much swelled, so bad at dinner that I could not cut my Victuals, and so continued all the whole Day, at times in most violent pain. Had my hand bound up in flannel, very low. Appetite very indifferent, rather unfortunate.

July 29, Wednesday. . . . Had a good night of rest last Night. Hand much swelled, but not so painful as it was Yesterday. Mr. Frank Woodforde made us a Morning Visit, he came to ask us to dinner on Friday next. I cannot promise. Mr. John Dalton with young Mr. Hunt of Compton called here this morning to look at the late Mrs. Pounsetts House as an Uncle of Hunts by name Hussey of Salisbury wants such a one. They stayed with us some time as it rained a good deal. My Brother dined & spent the Afternoon with us. Willm. Woodforde spent the latter part of the Aft. here. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted, Peas & Pork &c.

July 31, Friday. It being a fine Morning and Haymakers all at work, My Sister ordered a Leg of Pork to be

dressed for them, but Rain coming about Noon they were obliged to leave off and go to their respective homes. The Pork had been boiling for them two Hours, we had it taken up and put by for them against another Day. Dinner to day, boiled Salmon & cold rost Beef &c.

Aug. 1st., Saturday. . . . Very wet all the day, but not heavy Rain. My Sister has about 4 acres of Hay, all abroad, good for very little now. She has however made three Ricks very well indeed.

Aug. 2, Sunday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. My Hand still better, but very weak at present. Dinner to day, Loin of Veal roasted &c. In the Evening Willm. Woodforde brought home Nancy to spend a few days with us, they drank Tea with us. Willm. went away about 7. o'clock, leaving Nancy here. Samuel Pounsett spent the former part of the Even' here. Nancy supped and slept at Cole.

Aug. 5, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, supped & slept again at Cole. To some Salmon at 9<sup>d</sup>. per lb. pd. o. 2. 6. About 10. o'clock this Morning, my Sister Pounsett and her Daughter, and Nancy, went (in a Wincaunton Chaise) to Sherborn-Races, and there spent the day. They dined at a Mr. Penny's, who married Betsy Guppey. They did not return till after 10. at night, being very wet and exceeding dark. Mr. Sam. Pounsett came home with them, they left Jenny Pounsett at Mr. Pennys to spend a few days with Betsy Penny. They were frightened very much on their return home, it being so very dark and also very wet. I paid the Driver for his Dinner to day & Toll o. 2. o. Old Mr. Dalton called here in the Morning, but did not stay. I was out, angling, but saw him out in the Field and had some Chat with

him & I walked in with him. He brought 2. Cucumbers for my Sister. I caught one Trout and one Eel to day. It was late before we got to bed to night. Thank God! that they came home safe.

Aug. 6, Thursday. . . . My Sister Pounsett is greatly altered to what she used to be, she is vexing, fretting & complaining all the day long. Nothing can please her. The Folks busy in making Cheesecakes &c. to day. To Hannah Arnold & her Sister gave o. 1. o.

Aug. 10, Monday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. again at Cole. My Brother and Wife and Mrs. R. Clarke breakfasted, dined, supped & slept again at Cole. About 12. o'clock being fine, we all walked into Bruton, called on Mrs. Blackmore &c. and returned home to dinner, but on our return we were caught in the Rain, and the Ladies wet through. Old Mr. Dalton was with us. Mrs. Woodforde and Nancy meeting with Mrs. Webb of Roundhill Daughter of old Mr. Dalton, in her Carriage going home, she very kindly took them up and carried them to Cole. My Sister Pounsett & self walked the lower Road. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted &c. Jenny Pounsett & Mrs. Penny were expected home to dinner to day, but they did not come at all to day. Paid one Bennett for a Chaise to Gallhampton this Morning whilst at Bruton o. 7. 6. For a Glass of Sherry Wine at Bruton for my Brother and self at Bennetts, the Publican's o. o. 10. At Hoddinets for a Doz. of small black Buttons o. o. 5. Frank Woodfordes Wife and Daughters, Fanny & Harriot spent the Afternoon at Cole. In the Evening we got to Quadrille, won o. 1. o. One Luff an Attorney of Wincaunton waited on me this Afternoon, desiring my Vote for Mr. Dickenson of Kingweston, he offering



himself to represent the County of Somerset, a Vacancy happening by the Death of Mr. Coxe the late Member. John Perry of Hatspen called with him, and talked with me about my Estate at Ansford, which he at present rents of me with that of my Brothers.

Aug. 11, Tuesday. . . . My Brother and Wife and Mrs. R. Clarke breakfasted and spent most of the morning at Cole, and at Noon they walked home to Cary. We went part of the way with them, as far as old John Tully's. Jane returned home from Sherborn & Mrs. Penny (late Betsy Guppey) came with her to spend a few Days here. They came just before Dinner. Mrs. Penny is a very pleasant agreeable Woman. She is but twenty Years old to Morrow.

Aug. 12, Wednesday. . . . Washing Week at Cole, & very luckily charming Weather. A very large Book of Cloaths, nine Weeks if not more.<sup>1</sup>

Aug. 14, Friday. I breakfasted, and spent the Morning at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, & spent the Morning at Cole. Mrs. Penny breakfasted, & spent the Morning at Cole. About 1. o'clock I took a Walk by myself to C. Cary to Mrs. Richd. Clarke's & there dined, supped & slept. Sister Pounsett & Daughter, Mrs. Penny and my Niece Anna Maria Woodforde went in a Bruton Chaise to Castle Cary, & dined, supped, & slept at Mrs. R. Clarke's. Mr. Frank Woodforde & Wife, Mrs. Goujon & a Mr. Baker from London, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. White dined, supped and spent the Evening with us. Sister White, Mary Woodforde of Taunton, and Fanny Woodforde spent the Aft. supped & spent the Evening with us. There were 14. of us at Dinner, & 17. at Supper. We had for Dinner, Ham & Chicken, a fine Piece of fresh Salmon, part of a Round of Beef

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note p. 320 succeeding.

boiled, a fine Pig roasted, Pies and Tarts &c. After Coffee and Tea we got to Cards, lost o. o. 6. We made it late to bed to night, after 12. o'clock.

Aug. 15, Saturday. We all breakfasted, dined, supped & slept at Castle-Cary at Mrs. Richd. Clarkes. I had a very good Room and bed and slept very sound all the whole Night. Dinner to day, Tripe boiled, Neck of Pork roasted &c. In the Evening got to Cards again, lost o. 1. 6.

Aug. 16, Sunday. . . . My Brother's Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke, Nancy & my Niece Jane Pounsett went to Cary-Church this Morning and heard Mr. Frank Woodforde Preach. Dinner to day Pork & Beans, a Breast of Veal roasted, a plumb Pudding something of the Damson kind.

Aug. 19, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Mrs. R. Clarkes, as did Sister Pounsett & Daughter, Mrs. Penny and Nancy. After breakfast I took a Walk with my Brother over Cary Hill and returned through Cary to dinner at Mrs. Clarkes. We saw & chatted a little with poor Mr. Verney<sup>1</sup> eldest Son of Ld. Willoughby de Broke. Changed at John Francis's a Norwich ten Pound Bill. For a Pocket Ink-Stand at Francis's pd. o. 1. 6. To three Yards of black Ribband at Nancy Clarkes pd. o. 1. 0. To a Pair of new Shoes of Biggen of Hatspen, pd. o. 7. 0. Dinner to day, a fine Dish of Fish, Pigeon Pye &c. In the Afternoon I walked with my Brother down to David Maby's and smoked a Pipe with him. He gave us strong Beer & Cyder, no Wine. At Cards this Evening, Quadrille, won o. 2. 0. We were very merry to night & kept it up late.

Aug. 20, Thursday. I breakfasted, dined & spent the Afternoon at Cary at Mrs. R. Clarkes, as did my Sister

<sup>1</sup> See entry for August 25, 1789, vol. iii, p. 134.

& Daughter Pounsett, and Mrs. Penny. Nancy breakfasted, dined, supped & slept there. Soon after breakfast I took a Walk with my Brother thro' Cary towards the Mill and then went across the Fields towards Ansford over part of our Estate, thro' Ansford, called at Sister Whites &c. and back to Cary to dinner. Dr. Windham called on us about two o'clock but did not stay long. We talked about the approaching Election for the County, vacated lately by the Death of Mr. Coxe. The day of Nomination is fixed for Tuesday next. My Brother & self intend going as does Dr. Windham, and in favour of Mr. Burland. Dickenson, Gore Langton and Mr. Burland, the only Candidates at present. Dinner to day, Hash-Mutton, Beans & Pigs face, and a fine Leveret roasted, sent by Mr. John Dalton to my Sister Pounsett. After Coffee & Tea this Evening I took a Walk to Cole and there supped & slept. My Brother went part of the way with me, as far as Honeywicke. Sister Pounsett & Daughter & Mrs. Penny went in Ansford Inn Chaise to Cole, and there supped and slept. To Mrs. Clarkes Servants, Molly & Robert, gave o. 5. o.

Aug. 21, Friday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole, as did Mrs. Penny. This morning I partly settled Accounts with my Sister Pounsett, of Monies received and paid by her for me during the last two Years—She had received for me in all 95. 15. 6. Paid in all 44. 3. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ . Balance due to me from her 51. 11. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Recd. of her in Bills & Cash the Sum of 42. 1. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Remaining due from her to me 9. 10. 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ . Dinner to day, Knuckle of Veal boiled, rost Beef &c. At Quadrille this Evening after Tea, lost o. o. 6. We had a very heavy Storm of Rain with Thunder and Lightning about dinner Time, but soon over.

Aug. 23, Sunday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole.

Mrs. Penny breakfasted, dined & spent the Aft. at Cole. About 11. o'clock this Morning, Mrs. Penny's Husband and a Mr. Webb who married Pennys Sister came to Cole in a one Horse Chaise from Sherborne and they dined & spent the Afternoon with us, and in the Evening returned home to Sherborne taking Mrs. Penny with them. My Brother, Sister White, Mr. Robt. White and Wife, and Mr. Saml. Pounsett also dined & spent the Afternoon with us. We had for Dinner, some boiled Tripe, a boiled Leg of Mutton, a Couple of Ducks roasted and a boiled Orlean-Plumb Pudding. Mr. Penny is a Stationer at Sherborne and Mr. Webb is a Saddler at Sherborne & his Wife a Millener.<sup>1</sup> For a Pack of Message Cards, gilt, pd. Mr. Penny 0. 1. 2. Mr. John Dalton, and a Mr. Ford a Clergyman, called on us just before Dinner & rather kept us from Dinner. Ford is a Wiccamist, came off when I was Poser. Mrs. Penny fell down Stairs this Afternoon, but I hope did not hurt herself much as she is breeding. All our Company but Sister White left us about 7. o'clock, she stayed & supped & slept at Cole. Mr. Saml. Pounsett also returned to us at Supper time and he supped & spent the Evening with us. My Brother was getting forward very fast.

Aug. 25, Tuesday. I breakfasted, supped & slept at Mrs.

R. Clarkes. We all got up very early this morning to go to Wells there being a Meeting of the County, to nominate a Representative in Parliament for Somerset in the Place of the late Member, Mr. Coxe, deceased. I went with my Brother in one of Ansford

<sup>1</sup> For some remarks on the mingling of classes in the eighteenth century, see vol. i, pp. 29-31.

Inn Chaises. Mrs. Millard, Mrs. R. Clarke and Nancy, went in another, about 8. o'clock this Morning, to Wells. We got thither about 10., a great deal of Company indeed at Wells. We went to the Swan and there my Brother & self dined with about a dozen more Gentlemen all in favour of Burland. The Ladies dined at a private House, at Mr. Andrews's near the Cathedral. There were 3. Gentlemen proposed Mr. Burland, Mr. Gore Langton, and Mr. Dickenson. The Sheriff, Mr. Lyne, declaring the Show of Hands to be in favour of Dickenson, Mr. Burland gave up, but Gore Langton said he should not give up, but contest it with Dickenson. A vast Concourse of People indeed at Wells to day. I saw some old Acquaintance at Wells that I had not seen for upwards of twenty Years, viz. Charles Russell of Winbourne, Harry Yeatman of Brent, Helliard of Coker, Dr. Windham, &c. For my Brother & self, at the Swan, pd. o. 14. o. The Bottle was pushed about pretty brisk after dinner. I was quite merry as we were all. We all got home safe and well thank God by 9.

Aug. 26, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at Mrs. R. Clarkes. Mrs. Willm. Woodforde of Gallhampton breakfasted with us at Mrs. R. Clarkes, and after breakfast, I walked with her to Gallhampton & returned home to Mrs. Clarkes to dinner. Nancy walked with us to her old School Mistress, Jenny Maby's, in South-Cary, and there she stayed till I returned from Gallhampton. We made Mrs. Melliar, and Mrs. Caleb Penny a Morning Visit, they were glad to see us & were very polite. Js. Woodforde of Allhampton spent the Aft. with us. After Coffee & Tea this Evening we got to Cards, won o. 2. o. Yarlington Fair to day.



Aug. 27, Thursday. I breakfasted at Mrs. R. Clarkes, as did Nancy. Soon after breakfast, Fanny Woodforde & Mary Woodforde of Taunton called on us, and they walked with my Brother, Nancy and me to Gallhampton to spend a day or two, with Willm. Woodforde and Wife. My Brother returned home to Cary, to dinner. Dinner to day some fryed Soals, a Loin of Beef roasted Tarts and Pies. In the Evening we all walked but Nancy to the Races at Yarlinton, where was a great deal Company and Many Carriages full of genteel People. We returned to Gallhampton by 8. in the Evening. At Whist this Evening, with Mrs. Willm. Woodforde & self against Mary Woodforde & Nancy, won o. 1. 6. I dined, supped & slept at Gallhampton.

Aug. 28, Friday. I breakfasted, dined, supped & slept again at Gallhampton. After breakfast, I desired Willm. to drive me over in his one horse Phaeton to Sandford-Orcas, where I have a small Estate which I have not seen for many Years, accordingly we took a ride thither and had very fine Weather for it, tho' very rough road and a great way, near eight Miles from Gallhampton. We got thither about 12. o'clock, and viewed all the Premises. Farmer John Downe has taken to it, and has let one of the Tenements to one Thomas Marks, a Husbandman, and the other Tenement to one Saml. Bullen, a Carpenter. The whole has been put in very sufficient repair, and a new blacksmith's Shop erected upon it, all done by the above Farmer John Downe, the Orchards near the Tenements have been dug up and set to Potatoes, which should not have been done. I did not see either the Farmer or his Tenants. I have recd. no Rent for the above Premises since Lady Day, 1787. Last Lady

Day therefore had eight Years Rent due from my Estate at Sandford. We returned home about 3. o'clock to dinner. Dinner to day, 3. boiled Chicken and a Pigs Face, a Bullocks Heart roasted & a rich plumb Pudding. After Coffee and Tea this Evening we got to Whist again the same as last Night, won o. 1. 0, but did not receive the Cash either to night or last Night, so that Mary stands indebted to me o. 2. 6. I had an exceeding good bed & Room indeed last Night.

Aug. 29, Saturday. . . . In the Evening I walked to Cole-Place and there supped and slept at my Sister Pounsetts, found also my Sister White still at Cole. To Willm. Woodforde's Servant Maid, Molly, gave o. 2. 6. I left Nancy at Mrs. Clarke's to supp and sleep.

Sept. 1st, Tuesday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Sister White, Mary Woodforde, & Nancy, breakfasted dined, supped & slept again at Cole. Dinner to day, hashed Mutton Tripe & a rost Leveret &c. Old Mr. Dalton made us a long Morning Visit. Mr. Sam Pounsett sent us a brace of Partridges. Mrs. Pounsett & Daughter, Miss Mary Woodforde and Nancy with James Woodforde of Allhampton (who came walking here this Afternoon) took a Walk this Afternoon to Farmer Clements at Wicke & there they drank Tea & returned home by 8. o'clock. I did not chuse to walk so soon after dinner but stayed at home with Sister White. Whilst Sister White and self were drinking Tea this Evening, old Mr. Dalton called on us with two fine Pheasants in his Pocket as a present to us. He stayed and smoked a Pipe with Me, and after that I walked quite home to his House at Pitcomb stayed about a Qr. of an Hour and then home to Supper.

Sept. 3, Thursday. . . . To Sally Pointing this morning for knitting me a pair of white worsted Gloves, Worsted & Work pd. o. 1. 3. Gave her also, besides o. o. 3. Miss Clements of Wicke spent the Day at Cole. Mr. Mitchell, Attorney of Bruton, drank Tea this Aft. at Cole. He came to meet Miss Clements. . . .

Sept. 4, Friday. . . . To Robin Colley this Afternoon for some Netting Twine from Bruton 2. Balls, at 3<sup>d</sup>. each pd. o. o. 6. To Ditto. for a new Iron-Netting Needle, pd. o. o. 6.

Sept. 5, Saturday. . . . To a very poor old Man, 85. Years old, and a Native of North America, a very thankfull Man, gave o. 1. o. Dinner to day, fried Soals, very fine indeed 1. pair only near three Pound weight. We had also one of the finest Crabs for Supper I ever saw, it weighed six Pounds. I gave for it 2. Shillings. At Quadrille this Evening with Sister White, Sister Pounsett and Nancy, lost o. 1. o.

Sept. 7, Monday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Sister White, Mary Woodforde and Nancy breakfasted dined, &c. &c. again at Cole. Willm. Woodforde's Wife came over to Cole on foot this Morning soon after breakfast, and she dined, supped and slept at Cole, being wet in the Evening. Willm. Woodforde came over in his Phaeton a little before Dinner and he dined, spent the Afternoon and supped at Cole. Mr. Thomas also of Cary dined and spent the Afternoon with us. Dinner to day, Peas & Pork, Tripe, hashed Veal, a Leveret roasted & a Pheasant with a Rice Currant Pudding. In the Afternoon Mrs. Willm. Woodforde, Mary Woodforde, Nancy and Jane Pounsett walked into Bruton and drank Tea, at Dr. Sampsons. In their return to Cole, they were caught in the Rain and were wet thro' and through. George

Messiter of Wincaunton and John Goldsboroughs Son of Bruton walked home with the Ladies and he supped & spent the Evening. George Messiter went home with Willm. Woodforde to sleep at Gallhampton, he was quite merry. We made it late before we got to bed to night.

Sept. 8, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Frank Woodforde and Wife & Daughter Fanny with her Brother Tom dined and spent the Afternoon with us. . . . They came & returned in Captain Johnsons Carriage. Fanny Woodforde was left behind to spend a Day or two with Jane Pounsett. Jane behaved quite rude this Evening, I never saw a Girl in my Life of such a Disposition, she is never easy, & always disturbing other People.

Sept. 10, Thursday. . . . Sister Pounsett paid Me this Morning what she owed me at our last reckoning, being 9. 10. 6. To 2. Gallons of Gin of one Ridout, pd. 1. 0. 0. Mr. Willm. Webb dined, spent the Afternoon, supped & spent the Evening with us. He slept again at Mr. Saml. Pounsetts. Mr. Sam spent the Aft. and Evening with us. Mr. Robt. White dined and spent the Afternoon with us. Sister Pounsett paid to Mr. Webb, by me to day, for a Carpet 6. 3. 0. My Sister also paid Mr. Robt. White by me for work done at her House at Ansford &c. 7. 3. 0. Dinner to day, Pork & Beans, hash Calfs Head, a fine Piece of rost Beef and a pumb Pudding. After Tea this Evening we got to Cards, won 0. 0. 6. Mr. Jeans of Allhampton spent the former part of the Evening with us, & went home with Mr. Robt. White. We were very merry this Evening & kept it up late.

Sept. 13, Sunday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. &c. again at Cole. Sister White, Mary, Fanny & Nancy Woodforde, breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Mr.

Robt. White and Wife, & Mr. Foulks of Shepton Mallet dined and spent the Afternoon with us. My Brother spent the Afternoon with us. Tom Woodforde dined & spent the Afternoon here. In the Evening Sister White took leave of Cole and walked home to Ansford to her Sons. Dinner to day, Beef Steaks, Tripe, & Loin of Veal roasted. Mr. Webb of Wincaunton sent us a fine Cock Pheasant, gave the Man that brought it o. 1. o. Miss Mary, Nancy & Fanny Woodforde and Tom went to Pitcomb Church this Afternoon. My Sister Pounsett poorly, is continually complaining and does not bear up against it at all, but gives way to her Disorder, which is nervous.

Sept. 14, Monday. . . . Farmer John Downe of Sanford Orcas my Tenant came to Cole about 2. o'clock this Afternoon to settle some Matters with me. William Woodforde came with him. He brought me in Bills for repairs for the last four Years, to the Sum of 31. 18. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ . Mr. Pounsett let him have the whole for four Guineas a Year, 4. Years due from Downe at last Lady Day, from last Lady Day for the future He is to give five Guineas per Annum, till the whole Expences of the late Repairs are paid. The last four Years being deducted from the above Expences, that is 16. 16. o, there then remains to be paid 15. 2. 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ . The Farmer eat some Victuals & had some Cyder. Willm. Woodforde dined & spent the Aft. with us. My Brother spent the Afternoon with us. Soon after he came, Farmer Clements of Wicke and Robin Francis came here to settle about his [and] Robin's taking mine & my Brother's Estate at Ansford. After long talking we closed. He is to give me for mine, forty Guineas a Year and pay all Rates & Taxes, the Land-Tax only excepted. Dinner to day, Cottage Pye, Tripe, a fine



Pheasant roasted and an Apple Pudding. My Brother left us about 8—Willm. about 7. o'clock. At Whist this Evening, Mary Woodforde and me against Sister Pounsett & Nancy, lost o. 3. o.

Sept. 15, Tuesday. . . . Fanny Woodforde & Jenny Pounsett had a little sparring this Afternoon—Fanny in the Wrong.

Sept. 16, Wednesday. . . . About 12. o'clock Sister Pounsett & Daughter, Mary Woodforde & Nancy went in a Bruton Chaise to see Lord Ilchester's<sup>1</sup> House at Redlinch, and from thence to Ansford Parsonage where they dined & supped. At two o'clock after dressing myself I walked to Ansford and there dined, spent the Afternoon, supped and spent the Evening at Mr. Frank Woodforde's with him, his Wife, Fanny & Tom, Mr. & Mrs. Goujon, my Brother & Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke, Sister Pounsett and Daughter, Mary Woodforde and Nancy Woodforde. Sister Pounsett and Daughter, and Mary Woodforde returned home to Cole about 11. o'clock & slept there. I walked with Nancy, Mrs. R. Clarke, my Brother & Wife about half past eleven to Mrs. Clarke's and there I had a bed—very late to Night tho' I had no Pipe. At Cards, Quadrille this Evening, lost o. 1. o. Dinner to day one Pair of Soals fried, a Brill boiled, Saddle of Mutton roasted, Soup, three Partridges roasted, Rice Pudding baked, Damson Pye, stewed Cucumber &c. Supper some boiled fish, cold Beef, Maccaroni &c. Doctor Penny from Badmington the Duke of Beauforts and Nephew Robert, drank Coffee & Tea with us in the Afternoon. He looked very jolly and well.

Sept. 19, Saturday. . . . About half past ten this Morning I set off for Cole on foot, my Brother, Mrs. Clarke

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. ii, pp. 260-1.

& Nancy walked part of the Way with me, as far as Nap-hollow. I got to Cole soon after 11. o'clock this Morning, and there, I dined, supped & slept. Dr. Penny and his Nephew Robt. called on me this Morning at Cole, soon after my return, and they spent about half an Hour with us. Dinner to day, Loin of Pork roasted &c. Young Tom Woodforde spent the Afternoon with us. He goes to the Charter House in London on Monday. Gave Robin Colley this Evening for bringing a Bundle for me from Cary, this Morning o. 1. o. Most delightful Weather still continues, thank God. At Quadrille this Evening neither won or lost.

Sept. 23, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Mary Woodforde breakfasted, and spent part of the Morning at Cole. About 11. this Morning Fanny Woodforde of Ansford called on Mary Woodforde and they walked into Bruton and went to the Revd. John Goldsboroughs where they dined & slept. I walked with them as far as Bruton. To Jonathan Marshall for Fish, paid o. 7. 6. To Will. Coleman, who brought over a brace of Partridges and a Rail from Robt. Whites, gave o. 1. o. About 2. o'clock, My Brother & Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke, Nancy Woodforde and Mrs. Willm. Woodforde came to us in a Coach & four from Ansford Inn (which I had ordered for them) and they dined, & supped & slept here, all but Mrs. Willm. Woodforde who went home soon after Supper. About four o'clock this Afternoon, My Sister Pounsett & Daughter, Mrs. Clarke, my Brothers Wife, and Mrs. Willm. Woodforde, and myself, all got into the Coach, and drove to Bruton Races, to a Field called Burrowfield where the Races are kept, about half a Mile from Bruton, and there we stayed till after 7. o'clock, and

then returned home to Cole. The Races were very indifferent, but a vast Concourse of People attended, both gentle and simple. My Brother did not go, but stayed at Cole. We stayed in the Coach all the time & very hot we were, on our return home to Cole particularly. One Mr. Pool of Sherborn, a young Man & is a Surgeon called here just before dinner, but did not stay long. Mr. Penny of Sherborne also who married Betsy Guppey dined and spent the Afternoon with us. We returned home to Tea this Evening, and after Tea, my Brother & Wife, Mrs. R. Clarke, Mrs. Willm. Woodforde, Sister Pounsett and me, sat down to Cards to limited Loo, Counters sixpence per Dozen, limited to 30. half pence, at which I lost o. 4. 6. Gave the two drivers of the Coach only o. 2. o. As they received four Shillings besides. We made it late to night, before we got to bed. We had for Dinner to day, a nice Dish of Fish, a very fine Rump of Beef boiled, a Couple of Chicken roasted, plumb and Apple Pies &c.

Sept. 27, Sunday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Mary & Fanny Woodforde, Miss Mogg, and John Goldesborough Junr., all from Bruton, gave us a Morning Call, but soon returned back to Bruton. I walked with my Niece Pounsett, this Afternoon to Pitcomb Church & heard Ricd. Goldesborough preach &c. My Brother dined and spent the Afternoon with us. Dinner to day, Loin of Veal roasted &c. Sister Pounsett but very poorly to day at Dinner.

Sept. 28, Monday. Mr. Edwd. Mitchel, Attorney, of Bruton, called on me this Morning for me to sign a notice for John Perry of Hatspen to leave what he rents of me (old Lady Day Next) at Ansford. Harry

Noble of Cary called on my Sister Pounsett this Morning, concerning some Land which he rents of her at Ansford, to take a Lease of it for seven Years from old Lady Day next, as part of it is to be dug up, and made Garden Ground, seven Guineas an Acre or on the same terms that Mr. Robt. White has let some of his, 8. Score Sugg to the Acre. Sister Pounsett but poorly to day, continually complaining and fretting, which makes her worse. Dinner to day, Odds & Ends & a Couple of Pigeons rosted. My Sister had a Note this Evening from Mr. Webb of Wincaunton, concerning Mony Matters. Rather disappointed in his not coming, he is going to Town on Wednesday Next.

Sept. 29, Tuesday. I breakfasted, and spent the Morning at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, and spent the Morning at Cole. Mary Woodforde returned from Bruton about Noon and she dined, supped & slept at Cole. Fanny Woodforde came with her to Cole, and stayed about half an Hour & then went home to Ansford behind Philip on my Sisters Horse. They both came in a Bruton Chaise which I had ordered to take Nancy & me to Cadbury to her Brother Williams where we were to dine and spend a Day or two. Fanny was not pleased in not going in our Chaise to Cary, but she would not stay. About 2. o'clock, Nancy & self, got into the Chaise and went to Gallhampton, where we dined, supped & slept at Willm. Woodforde's. We just called at my Brothers as we went thro' Cary. We had for Dinner, a Leg of Mutton boiled & Capers, a Couple of Fowls rosted and a Ham &c. After Coffee & Tea this Evening we got to Cards, Whist, Mrs. Willm. Woodforde & me, against her Husband & Nancy, and we beat them—we each got of them o. 1. 6, which Nancy owes me, having no Silver to pay.

Sept. 30, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined, supped & slept at Gallhampton. Nancy breakfasted, dined, supped & slept at Gallhampton. Dinner to day, Hash-Mutton, Tripe boiled, a Couple of Fowls again roasted & Damson Pudding. Farmer Clements of Wick, spent part of the Afternoon at William's. After Coffee & Tea this Evening we sat down again to Whist, Partners as last Night, and we beat them again, we each won o. o. 6. which Nancy again owes me. There were some Hounds near Williams this Morning, belonging to Captain Johnson of Cary, about 8. Couple, a poor Shew & little Sport.

Oct. 3rd, Saturday. . . . Caught a very large Bitch Otter in the Garden to day with a large Gin. [Parson Woodforde is back again at Cole.]

Oct. 4, Sunday. . . . We have not had any one Visitor the whole day. My Sister Pounsett is poorly tho I think better than she was Yesterday. We none of us went to Pitcomb Church this Morning, Mr. Digby of Hilmington read Prayers & administered the H. Sacrament this Morning for Mr. Richd. Goldesborough. There was no Sermon to day at Pitcomb.

Oct. 5, Monday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. To Sol. Burge's Wife of Ansford for 1. Hndrd of Oysters which she had from Pool in Dorset, pd. o. 1. 6. To Luke Barnard, formerly a Servant of mine, having a large Family & very poor, gave o. 1. o. A Person & his Son, by name, Draper, Relations of Mrs. Pounsett's Maid, Molly Pitman, called here this Morning and they dined with her in the Kitchen. The old Gentleman is Brother to the Revd. Mr. Draper of Corton who has two Livings in this County. It turned out a very wet day tho not heavy. Dinner to day, Breast of Veal roasted &c. To poor John Tally Junr. of



- Hatspen, gave o. 6. At Cribbage this Evening lost o. 6.
- Oct. 7, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Jenny Pounsett rode up to Ansford this Morning behind Philip to Mr. Frank Woodfordes, she saw only Fan Woodforde & Mary Woodforde of Taunton. Fan was very angry with Nancy W. and said that Nancy was very much like Nann Stride an old Woman who goes about in Errands. Fan never speaks well of any body. She was very mad that she did not go in our Chaise to Cary. Jenny returned home to dinner. Sent a Letter to my Maid Betty at Weston Parsonage. Dinner to day, Mutton Soup, a boiled Rabbit &c. At Quadrille this Evening, neither won or lost.
- Oct. 10, Saturday. . . . Mr. John Foulkes of Shepton Mallett, Attorney, dined, supped and slept at Cole at my Sisters. A very droll, good natured young Man. . . .
- Oct. 13, Tuesday. . . . To a Plan of London, of an Italian pd. o. 1. o. Willm. Woodforde & his Wife, with his Brother Saml. Woodforde from London, dined & spent the Afternoon with us. Sam. Woodforde supped & slept here. . . .
- Oct. 14, Wednesday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Saml. Woodforde breakfasted, dined &c. at Cole. Saml. Pounsett spent the Afternoon, supped and spent Evening with us. After Tea we got to Cards limited Loo. Neither won or lost. Dinner to day, rost Beef & a Damson Pudding. Sam. Pounsett told us three very remarkable facts this Evening of some wonderful Men. The first was, that he saw a Man who was a Soldier eat a hind-Quarter of Veal that weighed eighteen Pounds, a sixpenny Loaf of Bread, and drank three Quarts of Beer, at one Meal for a

Wager. The Second was that there were two Men, that eat a Leg of Beef, bone and all, one eat the Meat and the other eat the bone. The third was, of a Man drinking half Pint Tumbler Glass of Beer and eat the Glass after it.

Oct. 15, Thursday. I breakfasted, and spent Most of the Morn' at Cole. Nancy breakfasted, & spent the Morn' at Cole. Saml. Woodforde breakfasted & spent the Morn' at Cole. Had a very restless Night indeed last Night, very little Sleep and frightfull Dreams but short. Dreamt that I took out three of my Teeth, and my Sister Pounsett had taken out two of hers, likewise that my Brother John was terribly bruised. It was very hot in the Night, with Thunder, and Lightning and heavy Storms of Rain. To John Tally Junr. for some Mushrooms, gave 1<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup>. About Noon I took a Walk with Saml. Woodforde to Castle-Cary to Mrs. Richard Clarke's where we dined & spent the Afternoon with her, my Brother & Wife, Sister Pounsett & daughter, & Nancy Woodforde. After Coffee & Tea, Saml. Woodforde took a Walk to his Brothers at Gallhampton & there he supped & slept. Sister Pounsett, and Daughter, Nancy and self supped & slept at Mrs. R. Clarkes. Dinner to day, Harrico Neck of Mutton, rost Beef a Couple of Chicken boiled & Pigs Face &c. At Cards, Commerce, this Evening, lost o. o. 6.

Oct. 16, Friday. . . . There was an Auction this Morning at the Angel Inn at Castle-Cary of all the Household Furniture &c. of the Inid [?] House very lately occupied by Will. Lucas [who] is gone off for Debt, having given the Bailifs, that took him, the slip & ran off. I was at the Auction some time this Morn' there. Went to Ansford this Morn', and called on Sister

White at her Son Robert White's, and likewise at Ansford Inn kept by one Hellier, to whom I paid a Bill for the Coach at Bruton Races 1. 5. 0. Paid also a Bill to him for Sister Pounsett 4. 12. 0. which I recd. of her to pay the same. Dinner to day, Bubble & Squeak & Neck of Pork roasted &c. Mr. Robt. White & Wife, and Mr. Sam. Pounsett of Cole supped & spent the Evening with us. At Cards this Evening, Loo, lost 0. 2. 0. Had very little Sleep last Night very Windy & stormy, Doors slapping together in the Morning early owing to rough Winds.

Oct. 17, Saturday. . . . About 11. o'clock this Morning I took a Walk to Cole, my Brother walking with me as far as Nap-Hollow, got to Cole before 12. and there dined, supped and slept again at my Sisters. Sister Pounsett & Daughter with Nancy Woodforde and my Sister White came to Cole in one of Ansford Inn Chaises, and they dined &c. at Cole. To Mrs. R. Clarkes Servants, gave 0. 4. 0. To Arnold's Son for 2. Pair of very small Soals very indifferent, on my return to Cole pd. 0. 1. 0. Gave Mrs. Pounsetts Man Phillip to give to Willm. Younge towards a Breast of Mutton 0. 1. 6. Old Patty Davidge a Tenant of mine at Ansford called on me this Afternoon and paid me half a Years Rent due to me for a Cottage & Orchard the Sum of 1. 11. 6 due the 10. of October 1795. I gave her, a free Gift of 0. 2. 6. To her Grand-Daughter, Fanny Barnard, a Girl about 15. Years old, who came with her 0. 1. 0. Dinner to day, Tripe, Soals & Beef-Steaks.

Oct. 20, Tuesday. . . . N.B. We were very busy Yesterday in packing up our travelling Trunk that goes by the Waggon to Morrow from C. Cary to London. Sent up last Night to my Brothers at Cary for him to

see it sent. Willm. Young & Philip carried it to Cary. To Briton this Morning for Washing &c. pd. o. 5. 3½. My Brother came to us about Noon and he dined supped and slept at Cole. He is far from well. Dinner to day, boiled Neck of Mutton &c. After Coffee & Tea this Evening we got to Quadrille. Nothing lost or won, five of us played at it.

Oct. 22, Thursday. . . . Mr. Fooks of Shepton-Mallett dined, supped and slept at Cole. He brought over Bank Notes & Cash to my Sister of 300. Pound, for the Bond she gave him when last at Cole. It was advanced by one Mrs. Candy near Frome. My Sister is to give five per Cent Interest for the same. Mr. James Woodforde of Allhampton drank Coffee & Tea with us this Afternoon. Dinner to day, a Leg of Pork boiled & a Surloin of Beef roasted and an Apple Pudding. At Cards, Commerce, this Evening, lost o. 1. o. Gave Will: Coleman this Evening o. 1. o. We spent a very merry Evening and did not get to bed till after 12. o'clock to night. Mr. Fooks is a very cheerful, merry Companion & full of goodnature.

Oct. 23, Friday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at Cole. Sister White, my Brother & Nancy breakfasted, dined &c. again at Cole. Mr. Fooks breakfasted at Cole, and soon after breakfast, he rode off for Shepton-Mallett. A very fine Morning but a Frost & cold, there was a great deal of Rain in the Night—Water high. I paid into Mr. Fooks's Hands this Morning for my Sister, the Sum of fifty Pounds to pay to Mrs. Eliz. Penny (late Betsy Guppey) of Sherborne when next there, being Money left in the late Mr. Pounsetts hands by her, left her by Mrs. Donne. I desired him also to pay her the Interest due for the same and we would pay him again. Also I paid him a Legacy of thirty Pounds

left by the late Mr. Pounsett to one Anne Robins of Sherborne lately but now of Bruton, Wife of George Robins, Staymaker, which I desired him to pay as he went thro' Bruton, to day. The said Anne Robins was a natural Daughter of Mr. Pounsetts, by one Bull. I also walked up to Mr. Sam. Pounsetts this Morn' with my Brother and there paid Sybil Shears late Servant of Mr. Guppey's, the Sum of 107. 10. 0. being Principal & Interest, Money, lately lodged in the hands of poor Mr. John Pounsett, deceased. Sent Philip also to Cary to pay Mrs. Gardners Bill for the Funeral of the same, the Sum of 53. 16. 9. My Brother's Wife & Mrs. R. Clarke came to Cole about 2. o'clock in George Pews little Cart & they dined, supped & slept at Sister Pounsetts. Dinner to day, fryed Eels, Ham & 2. boiled Fowls, a very fine Hare roasted & a bread-Pudding. At Cards (Commerce) this Evening, lost 0. 1. 0. Mr. Sam. Pounsett supped & spent the Evening with us.

Oct. 24, Saturday. . . . Paid my Sister Pounsetts Man Philip this Morn' for a Years Wages due April 5th. 1795 9. 9. 0.

Oct. 26, Monday. I breakfasted & spent part of the Morn' at Cole—As did also Miss Woodforde. Sister White, my Brother & Wife & Mrs. R. Clarke also breakfasted with us at my Sister Pounsetts. About Eleven o'clock this Morning, Nancy and self took leave of our Friends at Cole, and sat off for Bath. Briton went with us on an hired Horse. We had one of Ansford Inn Chaises. Gave to my Sister Pounsetts Servants 1. 1. 0. We went thro' Bruton, Evercreech, Shepton Mallett to old Downe Inn, about 13. Miles from Bruton. We got thither about one o'clock, eat a bit of cold Beef, and then got into a fresh Chaise and



Horses and off for Bath. We left our Friends at Cole very low, we were so also. Sent to Sybil (an old Servant Maid of the late Mr. Guppeys & who now lives at Mr. Sam. Pounsetts) by Mr. Sam Pounsett this Morning o. 2. 6. To some poor Neighbours of my Sister Pounsetts directly opposite their House, by name, Williams & Curtis, gave this Morning o. 3. 6. Paid for the Ansford Chaise & single Horse from Cole to Old Downe to the Driver 1. 3. 6. To the Driver of the Ansford Chaise gave o. 2. 0. Paid and gave for Refreshment at Old Down 4. 0. We got I thank God! safe and well to the White Hart Inn, Bath, kept by Pickwick about 4. o'clock this Afternoon, where we drank Tea, supped & slept, not fatigued at all to day. Paid for the Old Downe Chaise & Horse o. 18. 8. To the Driver, gave 2/0. Tolls, 6, 3/6, o. 5. 6. Sent in the Evening to enquire for Mr. and Mrs. Custance & Family at Portland Place, and likewise a fine Cock Pheasant which my Sister Pounsett gave us to carry to them. The Family were all very well & much obliged. To a pair of Elastic Soles for Shoes pd. o. 2. 0. To a Tunbridge Soap Box with Naples Soap pd. o. 3. 6. To a small Shaving-Brush in an Ivory Case o. 2. 0.

Oct. 27, Tuesday. We breakfasted, supped & slept at the White-Hart. I took a long Walk early this Morning about Bath. To a Barber shaving me & dressing my Wig o. 1. 0. After breakfast whilst Nancy was dressing I walked to Sydney Gardens, very pretty, gave there &c. o. 1. 0. Mr. Custance called on us this Morning about 11. o'clock and stayed a full hour with us. He desired us to dine with them to day. As we were at our Inn Window opposite the Pump-Room this Morn' we saw John Dalton coming from the Pump-Room way on foot. We did not call to him, as he was with

Company. About 2. o'clock I walked with Nancy to Portland Place where we dined & spent the Afternoon with Mr. & Mrs. Custance, their Children, Willm., Miss Custance, Emily, John, Neville & Charlotte. Poor Nancy was greatly chagrined & mortified going up to Portland Place which stands very high & the Wind much Power. The Wind was unluckily very high with some Rain just before we got thither, and directly opposite Mr. Custance's Front Windows, the Wind took Nancys riding Hat & Feathers with a green Vail entirely off and was blown some little way, and her Hair tho' but just dressed, quite destroyed, the Family at Portland-Place, seeing it all. The Family were extremely glad to see us. A Mrs. La Mair, Governess, dined with us. We had for Dinner, some Soals rather stale, a Saddle of Mutton roasted, Pork Steaks, Soup &c. We returned to our Inn about 8 o'clock & had a better Walk back, tho' Windy & cold.

Oct. 28, Wednesday. We breakfasted and dined at the White Hart. Mr. Custance called on [us] about Noon and spent the best part of an Hour with us, and then took leave of us, as we go for London at 4. this Aft. Paid at the Coach Office at Pickwicks for two inside Places and one outside to London 4. o. o. viz: inside each £1. 11<sup>s</sup>. 6<sup>d</sup>. outside 17<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup>. The Coach carries only four insides and goes from Pickwicks at the White Hart. Paid & gave at the White Hart 2. 12. 5. At four we got into the London Coach, and had two Gentlemen with us, one of them was a Counsellor Bragge Member for Monmouth & a Cotemporary of mine at New-College, as he did not acknowledge me, I did not him. It turned out a very fine Afternoon & Evening.

Oct. 29, Thursday. I thank God we had fine Weather and a good Moon all last Night, and about 10 o'clock

this Morning we got safe & well to London. to the Angel Inn at the back of St. Clements Church in the Strand, where we breakfasted, dined, supped & slept. We were not much fatigued with our Journey or otherwise indisposed, tho' travelling all Night. Paid for refreshment on the Road abt. o. 2. o. To Coachmen on the Road, gave o. 4. o. To Guard near London, gave o. 1. o. To extra Luggage, 50. lb. at  $1\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>d</sup>. pd. o. 6. o. As we heard when we got to London that the Sessions of Parliament was to be opened this Day—At one o'clock I walked with Nancy to St. James's Park about half a Mile, where at two o'clock or rather after we saw the King go in his State Coach drawn with eight fine Cream-Coloured Horses in red Morrocco-leather Harness, to the House of Lords. The Park was uncommonly crouded indeed, never was known a greater Concourse of People before, and I am very [sorry] to insert that his Majesty was very grossly insulted by some of the Mob, and had a very narrow escape of being killed going to the House, a Ball passing thro' the Windows as he went thro' old Palace-Yard, supposed to be discharged from an air Gun, but very fortunately did not strike the King or Lords. On his return from the House to James's Palace he was very much hissed & hooted at, and on his going from St. James's to the Queens Palace in his private Coach, he had another very lucky Escape, as the Mob surrounded his Coach and one of them was going to open the Door but the Horse Guards coming up very providentially at the Time, prevented any further danger. The State-Coach Windows going from St. James's to the Mews were broke all to Pieces by the Mob, but no other damage done to the Coach. We had very difficult work to get out of the Park, the Croud still

increasing, however at about 4. o'clock we got out thro' a narrow Passage between Marlborough House and St. James's Palace into Pall-Mall, and when we got to Charing-Cross in going up the Strand We Met such a Mob of the lowest Class that quite alarmed us, they were going to the Park. We crossed the Street under the Heads of Horses that were in the Coaches which stood quite close one to another all up the Strand. The Mob was composed of the most violent & lowest Democrats. Thank God the King received no Injury whatever, neither did we as it happened. Every Person attached to his Majesty was very much alarmed and concerned for him to-day. It was said that there were near two hundred thousand People in St. James Park about 3 o'clock. I never was in such a Croud in all my Life. By the Horse Guards the whole Area of the Parade was entirely filled up and all the Park quite to the Queens Palace very much crouded besides. Soon as ever the King got thro' the Horse Guards the Gates were shut as he went & as he returned. We were glad to get back to our Inn safe. Dreadful Work was expected to be done to night. Three or four of the Rascals that insulted the King were taken into Custody & had before Parliament. Both Houses of Parliament were very busy almost the whole night in consultation concerning the shameful Insult his Majesty received,<sup>1</sup> but nothing done as we heard off when we went to bed

<sup>1</sup> This scene of mob violence on October 29, 1795, followed on a mass meeting on October 26th in Copenhagen Fields, organized by the London Society, to present remonstrances on the state of the country. Prices had risen steeply and in the Autumn and Winter reached famine level (see, for instance, Parson Woodforde's entry for December 26th following). The King on proceeding to open Parliament was greeted with cries of 'Give us peace and bread', 'No King!' 'No War!' and so on. How serious this demonstration was is abundantly illustrated by the account so vividly

which was very late to night. Dinner to day, Whittings & some Veal Cutlets.

Oct. 30, Friday. We breakfasted, dined, supped & slept again at the Angel-Inn. Thank God! no bad work done last night tho' much was expected. Soon after breakfast I walked with Nancy to Miss Sally Popes in Newgate-Street, and from thence to Miss Webbs in Tudor-Street, but neither Miss Webb or her Brother or Miss Hussey [were at home], but as they were expected soon I left Nancy there and walked back to my Inn. About 3. o'clock I sent Briton after her whilst I was dressing. Nothing talked of to Day but the happy Escape from the danger the King had Yesterday. His Majesty nevertheless with the Royal Family go this Evening to Covent Garden Theatre. Every Well-Wisher to them, is very anxious for their Welfare to night. Pray God! defend them. To 2. pair of Silk Stockings, partly Cotton pd. 17. o. To 3. pair of white worsted Boot-Stockings, pd. 6. o. To Cakes & other refreshment in the Morn', pd. o. 6. Dinner to day, Soals & Pork Stakes. Mr. Webb called on us about 10 o'clock this Night, smoked a Pipe with me & had Brandy & Water.

Oct. 31, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at the Angel Inn. Took a long Walk this morning by myself abt. the Court End of the Town long before breakfast. In my Walk for a Pair of Gloves, pd. o. 2. o. For a Ladies Pocket Book for 1796, pd. o. 2. o. Mr. and Miss Webb drank Coffee and Tea with us this Evening, after which we all got into an Hackney Coach

given by the Diarist. Following on this disturbance Parliament passed measures for the defence of the King's person, and to prohibit assemblies of the kind which had given rise to the tumult of October 29. See Thos. Wright's *Caricature History of the Georges*, ch. XIII.



and went to New-Drury-Lane Theatre where we saw performed a very pretty new Comedy called, First-Love. Enter[tainment]: Lottery Ticket. Both pretty things and extremely well performed. Principal Actors & Actresses were Palmer, Bannister Junr., King, Mrs. Jourdan, Miss Farren, Miss Pope, Signiora Storace &c. For 2. Tickets, pd. o. 7. o. To Coach hire from the Theatre &c. pd. o. 2. o. I walked about with Nancy after breakfast, to Miss Popes Miss Webb &c. Dinner to day fryed Herrings and some Beef Steaks &c. Cyder, Wine & Porter to drink. His Majesty with the Queen and most of the Royal Family were at Covent Garden last Night, and very graciously received, God Save the King was played six Times—Every thing pleasant. Thank God! that they met with nothing disagreeable.

Nov. 1, Sunday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at the Angel. It being a wet Morning, very little going out to day. Had a new Wig brought me this Morning made by one Lambert in St. Clement's Church Yard, made since Thursday Afternoon last. He is Barber to the Inn. Gave to his Man that shaves me o. 1. o. I am to pay for my Wig to Lambert one Pound five. About 3. o'clock this Afternoon we went in a Coach to Mr. Webbs in Tudor Street and there dined and drank Tea and spent part of the Evening with Mr. & Miss Webb. We had for Dinner some Salmon, rost Beef &c. We returned to our Inn about 9. in the Evening. For a Coach to and back from Mr. Webbs pd. 2. o.

Nov. 2, Monday. I breakfasted, dined &c. again at the Angel. Nancy breakfasted, supped & slept at the Angel. Soon after breakfast I walked with Nancy to her Mantua Maker, Miss Ryder, Southampton build-

ings Chancery Lane, from thence went with her to Sally Pope's in Newgate Street and there left her to spend the remaining part of the Day. I then returned to my Inn & wrote a long Letter to my Sister Pounsett & sent it this Evening. About 6. in the Evening I walked to Miss Popes and there drank Tea with her, Mr. Baker & Nancy. Paid this morning to Mr. Stephenson, Landlord, of the Angel Inn for our Dinners &c. since Thursday Morning last to this Morning, 3. 18. 2. To extra Expences in the City for fruit &c. pd. o. 1. o.

Nov. 3, Tuesday. We breakfasted, & spent part of the Morning at the Angel Inn. Paid for my New Wig 1. 5. o. To 2. new Table Cloths very large of one Jeremy in Tavistock Street near Covent Garden pd. 2. 2. o. We packed up all our things this Morning, and then paid our Landlord since Sunday Night 1. 19. 6. Our beds & Servant's Bed was charged out of the above one Pound, 1<sup>s</sup>/6<sup>d</sup> each night for Each of us and one Shilling per Night for Briton. Paid & gave to Barber & Servants at the Inn o. 18. o. To a black Leather Watch-Chain pd. o. 1. o. About 3. o'clock this Afternoon We left the Angel Inn, got into a Coach with our Luggage and drove to the Swan & two Necks in Lad-Lane, where at 4. o'clock we got into one of the Norwich Coaches & set off for Norwich. Paid for the Coach from the Angel o. 1. 6. To extra Luggage from London to Norwich pd. o. 7. o. To refreshment at the Swan & 2. Necks, pd. o. 2. o. To a Porter at the Swan, pd. o. o. 3.

Nov. 4, Wednesday. We had I thank God! a good night of Weather all last night, good Lights to our Coach the beginning of the Night, and a good Moon early in the Morning. It was very cold in the Night being a

smart Frost. We did not breakfast till we got to Tivetshall Ram in Norfolk about 8. o'clock this Morning, and only fifteen Miles from Norwich. Gave to Coachmen & Guard from London o. 5. o. For our breakfast this Morn' & on the Road o. 4. o. About 11. o'clock this Morn' we got to Norwich safe & well, blessed be God for it. We stayed at Norwich at the Kings Head about an Hour then off in one of their Chaises for Weston and got home to Weston Parsonage between 3. and 4. o'clock in the Afternoon, and found all my Family well & all things in order—accept O Lord my Thanks for the same. Paid for Refreshment at Norwich & Chaise to Weston and Horse for Briton & given to Servants 1. 1. 7. To the Norwich Driver, gave o. 1. 6. Gave my Barber at Norwich, Frank o. 1. o as he brought me a new Wig to carry home. We drank Tea, supped & slept at our comfortable quiet, happy, thatched Dwelling. Our People had been expecting us some time.

Nov. 6, Friday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. There was a most violent Gale of Wind this Morn' early about 3. o'clock, continued More than an Hour. It waked me. It also shook the House. It greatly frightened our Maids in the Garrett. Some Limbs of Trees blown down in my Garden. Many Windmills blown down, and a good deal of Damage done to Weston House-Tiles. Mr. Girling called on us this Morning. Mr. Maynard, my Curate in my absence, called on me also this Morning. I thanked him for serving my Church and gave him 10. o. o. He served Weston from June 24. to Nov<sup>er</sup>. 5th. being 19. Sundays. He stayed about half an Hour. Mr. Corbould & the Revd. Mr. John Warren made us also a Morning Visit. Mr. Girling sent us a Leash of

Partridges this Even'. Gave to the Servant that brought them o. 1. o. Dinner to day a boiled Chicken and a Pigs Face and some beef Steaks.

Nov. 7, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. Mr. Foster of Lenewade Bridge sent us half a dozen fine Eels, caught last Night, gave o. 1. o. Sent Ben early this Morning with my great Cart to Norwich after our travelling Trunk &c. Sent by him a Letter to my Sister Pounsett at Cole. Dinner to day, Eels, a Calfs Head boiled & a Tongue. Mr. Stoughton, Rector of Sparham called on us whilst we were at Tea this Evening, and he drank Tea with us and spent an Hour here. Ben returned soon after five o'clock this Even' and brought home our travelling Trunk.

Nov. 8, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers & Preached this Aft. at Weston Church. I performed my Duty at Church pretty well, rather hurried. . . .

Nov. 9, Monday. . . . Settled Accounts with my Servants this Morning. To Ben Leggatt, during my absence & since pd. 7. 18. 11. To Betty Dade, ditto & ditto pd. 2. 4. 5. To Ditto, for 19. News Papers besides pd. o. 6. 4. To Ditto, given to People being ill pd. o. 4. o. Recd. of Betty for Butter, during my absence 2. 15. 7. To Briton, for divers things pd. o. 11. 1½. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould with a Mr. Hastings made us a morning Visit, stayed about an Hour. . . .

Nov. 10, Tuesday. . . . Brewed a Barrell of common Table Beer to day. Paid John Buck, Blacksmith, his annual Bill for Work done for me for the last Year 2. 1. o. Mr. Thorne, my Doctor made us a Morning Visit. . . .

Nov. 12, Thursday. . . . Old Mr. Warren of Tacclestone (Father of Mrs. Corbould) Made us a Morning Visit. He was alone. Brewed another Barrell of common

Beer to day. Made a Barrel of Mead to day, about 19. Pounds of Honey to six Gallons of Water, some few Races of Ginger and an Handfull of dried Elder Flowers put into a fine Holland Cloth & boiled with it. N.B. It should have been but 5. Gallons of Water. I added the other Gallon to allow for waste.

Nov. 14, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with ten Coomb of Wheat to Mr. Bloome. Ben returned about 6. o'clock this Evening. My Wheat was sold at two Guineas Per Coomb, a very great Price. He did not bring Cash for it but a Note from Mr. Bloome for the same. He brought also a small Box for Nancy from London. Dinner to day, Calfs Chaldon & a Couple of Ducks.

Nov. 15, Sunday. . . . I read Prayers, Preached & churched Mrs. Buck this Morning at Weston Church, recd. o. o. 6. As I came from Church, I called at Widow Hills in Church Street to see a poor labouring Man by Name, Neave, Thresher to Mr. Girling, subject to fits, and on Wednesday last, met with a very bad Accident, as he was throwing down some barley to thresh from almost the Top of the Barn by being taken as is supposed in a Fit, and falling off the Goff upon the Barn's Floor, poor Fellow he appeared to me as if he could not recover. He could not speak & had no Sense scarce in him. Dr. Thorne who attends him, says no bone is broke. I left with Widow Hill, to be laid out for him o. 2. o. I hope that the poor Fellow might recover. Dinner to day, Fillet of Veal roasted &c.

Nov. 16, Monday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Corbould made us a late Morning Visit. I engaged Mr. Corbould this Morning to be my Curate for the ensuing six Months, to begin on Sunday next, at the rate of thirty Pounds per Annum with all Surplice Fees. . . .



1795

Nov. 17, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Maynard called on us this Morning, I asked him to take a Family Dinner with us to Morrow. John Bates of Lenewade Bridge, brought me a Note from Mr. Steward of Norwich (Deputy Steward to New-College) to desire my Company at Lenewade Bridge on Monday next, a Court Baron being to be held there for the College on that Day.

Nov. 21, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with my great Cart, after a Box from London &c. Nancy sent a Letter by him to Sally Pope in Town. A very hard Frost indeed this Morning, so hard as made me begin feeding my Poultry. A very severe Frost indeed last night, and froze sharp all this Day. Ice able to bear Ducks. Dinner to day, Bullocks Cheek stewed and a Nice Rabbit roasted &c. Ben returned from Norwich between 6. and 7. o'clock this Evening, fine Evening but sharp frost. He brought me from Norwich—a Box from London with a Cheese in it that came from Cole—A new substantial Washing Copper from my Brazier, Manning, from Norwich, 26 Inches and  $\frac{3}{4}$  wide, 19. Inches  $\frac{1}{2}$  deep, weight 45. lb  $\frac{1}{2}$ , wch. at 1<sup>s</sup> 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>d</sup> per lb. is—[blank] and also half a Chldrn of Coal from Bloome.

Nov. 22, Sunday Mem: . . . Mr. Corbould read Prayers & Preached for me this Morning at Weston Church, for the first time on being appointed by me for my Curate. He called on us as he rode to Church. We did not go to Church this Morning. Dinner to day, Neck of Veal roasted &c. Mr. Smith of Mattishall sent over his Servant Lad this Morning to enquire for us after our Journey. It is somewhat strange, as he has not sent a Servant to enquire after us for Years—No Note.<sup>1</sup>

Nov. 24, Tuesday. . . . Mrs. Bodham sent Nancy a Note

<sup>1</sup> See entry for September 25, 1788, and foot-note.

this Morning by their Servant Willm. Ward, to enquire after us. Poor Mr. Bodham rather worse than better, Senses almost gone. The Servant stayed some time on Account of the Rain. Soon after the Servant went, Aldridge who goes abt. with Cottons &c. called here, and whilst I was dealing with him, Mr. Mellish of Tuddenham made us a Visit and stayed about half an Hour with us, I asked him to dine with us & meet Mr. & Mrs. Corbould but he said that he expected his Sister from London. To Aldridge for 14. Yards of Cotton, at  $2^s/3^d$ . pd. 1. 11. 6. which I gave to my two Maids, a Gown each. To Aldridge also, for 8. Yrds. of Cotton, at  $2/6$ , 1. 0. 0 which I gave to Miss Woodforde. Also for 7. Yards of Cotton for a Gown for myself, at  $2^s/2^d$ . pd. 0. 15. 0. Pd. him likewise for a Marcella-Waistcoat Piece Yellow Ground  $\frac{3}{4}$  yrd. square, for Ben 0. 8. 0. To Aldridge also, for 2. Silk Handkerchiefs from Spittal Fields, Chocolate Ground & Yellow Spots, pd. 11. 0. One of which I gave to Ben & the other to Boy, Tim. Paid Aldridge in the whole 4. 5. 2. It being late almost dinner time, before I had finished with Aldridge, I asked him to dine with our Folks but he could not stay for that, he eat some cold rost beef and had some Table-Beer. Before I had quite dressed Mr. & Mrs. Corbould came to dine with us, which they did in a friendly way and stayed till near 8. in the Evening. We gave them for dinner, Hashed-Calfs Head a boiled Chicken & some Bacon, a Leg of Mutton rosted, and a Norfolk batter-Pudding & drippings after that, we had a Duck rosted, Maccaroni & Tarts. By way of Desert, we had white Currants, Pears & Apples, and Filberts. After Coffee & Tea we played one Pool of Quadrille at  $2^d$ . per fish, very little lost, I neither won or lost.

Nov. 25, Wednesday. . . . Our late Journey to Somersett, expences there and back again to Weston, paying Mr. Maynard serving my Church in my Absence, with things bought in London & elsewhere, cost me about 80. o. o.

Nov. 27, Friday. . . . Very hard Frost again to day, but very fair. Mr. Buck Senr. and with him one James Jermyn a Farmer & has lately taken Mr. Buck's Farm called on me this Morning to settle Tithe &c. but as he is to have it only for three Years, I did not chuse to let the 4. Acre Piece of Glebe that I let to Mr. Buck, but only to Michaelmas Next. About 2. o'clock this Aft. we walked up to Hungate Lodge and dined & spent the Afternoon with Mr. & Mrs. Corbould, no Company besides. . . .

Nov. 30, Monday. . . . Mr. Corbould gave us a Call this Morning to let us know, that they were going for Norwich this Afternoon, to spend the Winter there.

Dec. 1st., Tuesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. This being my Tithe-Audit Day. The following Farmers &c. paid me their respective Composition and dined at my House afterwards—Stephen Andrews, Thos. Reynolds Junr., J<sup>n</sup> Norton, John Mann Junr., J<sup>n</sup> Buck Senr., Wm. Bidewell, Js. Pegg, J<sup>n</sup> Buck Junr., Mary Pratt, Henry Rising, Charles Hardy, John Girling, John Baker, Willm. Howlett, James Herring, Henry Case, Andrew Spraggs, Robt. Emeris, Hugh Bush, John Heavers, and Charles Cary. They all behaved remarkably well, and were all happy & well pleased with the Frolic. Mr. Howlett was very indifferent indeed and went away very early, could neither eat or drink, appeared very feaverish all the time. His usual flow of Spirits quite gone. My Company to day, at least most of them did not leave

my House, till after 2. in the Morn' but all parted then in very high Glee—Stephen Andrews, John Buck Senr., and Hugh Bush, very much disguised in Liquor. Michael Andrews who has taken Mr. Smiths Farm (lately James Herrings) dined with us, as did Js. Jermyn, who has taken the Estate (late John Bucks Senr.). I gave them for Dinner, the best part of a Rump of Beef, a slip-Marrow bone of Beef, both boiled, a Leg of Mutton boiled & Capers, a fine Surloin of Beef, Salt Fish, a Couple of Rabbitts boiled & Onion Sauce, & plumb & plain Puddings in plenty. Small Beer & strong, Punch & Wine as much as they pleased to make use off—Strong Beer amazingly liked and drank in great Quantity, six Bottles of Rum made into Punch, one Dozen of Lemons, and about five Bottles of Port Wine drank to day. They were all extremely well pleased with their Entertainment and very harmonious. Recd. to day for Tithe about 286. 18. 6. Paid Mr. Emeris to day a poor Rate at 1<sup>s</sup>/6<sup>d</sup> from last Lady Day to Michaelmas 2. 5. 4½. Paid Mr. Bidewell for Carriage of 2. Chldrn of Coal 0. 10. 0. Paid Mr. Mann Junr., for ditto, ditto 0. 10. 0.

Dec. 6, Sunday. . . . Mr. Corbould gave us a Call this morning as he went to Weston Church. He came from Norwich. I did not go to Church this Morn', very unwell. Nancy could not go, being very dirty under foot. . . .

Dec. 8, Tuesday. . . . Paid Charles Cary this Morn' for mending—0. 6. At his Shop for Tobacco & Snuff pd. 0. 1. 6. Paid John Reeve this Morning for one Dozen of Port-Wine 29/0 2 Gllns of Rum 32/0, 3. 1. 0. Dinner, a boiled Fowl & Bacon &c. Ben & Betty spent the Evening at Charles Cary's. Brewed a Barrel of Table Beer.

Dec. 9, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Paid Mr. Cantrell (that lived last Year at Lenewade-Inn, but is now retired to Morton in a Farm of Mr. LeGrys's) for Porter &c. 1. 14. 0. To a poor Soldier lately arrived from America that had been wounded & is now ill gave 1. 0. Mr. Corbould made us a present this Morning of a small Cod's Head & Shoulder, which they brought this Morning from Norwich. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould dined & spent the Afternoon & part of the Evening with us till 8. o'clock. After Coffee & Tea, got to Quadrille, lost 0. 1. 0. We had for Dinner, Fish, Peas Soup, boiled Neck of Mutton & Capers, & a Goose roasted, and an hot Apple-Pye &c. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould stay at Weston till Friday, and then they return back to Norwich.

Dec. 12, Saturday. . . . Briton went this Morning to Norwich in Billy Bidewells Cart, with his youngest Son. Recd. of Betty for Butter this Morn' at 1<sup>s</sup>/1<sup>d</sup> 3. 8½ which should have been 3<sup>s</sup>/9½<sup>d</sup>, but having no more halfpence, owes me 1<sup>d</sup>. Briton returned about 6. o'clock this Evening. Good News from London, general Peace talked of.<sup>1</sup>

Dec. 13, Sunday. . . . Mr. Eaton of Elsing read Prayers & Preached at Weston Church this Afternoon for Mr. Corbould My Curate. Service began a Qr. after 2. o'clock. I did not go to Church, neither did Nancy. . . .

Dec. 17, Thursday. . . . Had a new London Wigg brought home this Morning, made by Lambert, St. Clements Church Yard. A Note came in the box with an Account of it—Viz: for the Wig, £1. 5<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup>, Box

<sup>1</sup> Prussia and Spain had already made peace with the victorious French in April and July respectively by the treaties of Basle, and there was much talk of peace in England during this year and 1796 following.



1<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup>, which with the Carriage from London to my House was 1<sup>s</sup>/6<sup>d</sup> more, my Wig will stand me in 1. 6. 6. Dinner to day, Rabbitts & Onions & a rost Duck.

Dec. 19, Saturday. . . . Billy Bidewell's People brought our News &c. Nancy had a Letter this Evening from Js. Woodforde from Allhampton, he lives with his Mother there. Wheat very dear indeed, fifty Shillings per Coomb and Wheat Flour very difficult to get at all. Meal per Stone three Shillings & three pence. . . .

Dec. 21, Monday. . . . This being St. Thomas's Day, I gave to 52. poor People of my Parish, against Christmas, 6<sup>d</sup> each, 1. 6. 0. Dinner to day, boiled Beef & a Rabbit roasted &c. Nancy wrote a long Letter to Mrs. Custance and sent it this Evening to their Tenant, Mr. Best at their Farm who sends a Parcel to them to Morrow with Turkies &c. against Christmas Day.

Dec. 22, Tuesday. . . . It was remarkably Warm this Morning, only my doing a small Job to a Spit-Wheel & not near the fire I was in a violent perspiration & wiped my Head with my Handkerchief. I am not well, so sleepy about Noon, after Dinner generally feel better. My Appetite is also very indifferent, all for Dainties. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c.

Dec. 23, Wednesday. . . . Willm. Thorogold, Gardener, came this Morn to my House, to prune my Trees, in the place of John Piper, who has given it up, being old. . . .

Dec. 24, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould dined & spent the Aft. with us & stayed till after 8. in the Evening. We had for dinner a nice Leg of Pork boiled and Peas Pudding, Giblet Soup, a very fine Turkey roasted & Cherry Tarts &c. Mr. Corbould paid me for Tithe 1. 4. 0. After Coffee & Tea, we got to Quadrille, lost

6. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould return back to Norwich on Saturday next. They have their poor Neighbours to dinner to Morrow being Xmas Day.

Dec. 25, Friday, Christmas Day. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. This being Christmas-Day, the following poor People dined at my House & had each one Shilling apiece given to them by me o. 6. o. Old Tom Atterton, Ned Howes, Robin Downing, old Mrs. Case, old Cutty Dunnell, and my Clerk Tom Thurston. They had each a Glass of strong Beer after they had dined. The Holy Sacrament was administered this Morning at Weston Church by Mr. Corbould. It hurt me to think that I could not do it myself, but suffering so much the last Christmas Day by the cold, am afraid since to go to Church during the Winter Season. Nancy might have gone, but did not. It turned out a very fine Day indeed, no frost. Dinner to day, a Surloin of Beef roasted, a fine Fowl boiled & Bacon, & plumb Puddings.

Dec. 26, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with 10. Coomb of Barley to carry to Mr. Bloome. Ben returned about 5. this Evening, all safe & well thank God. He brought a Note of the Barley as he did not see Mr. Bloome, but Ben told me that Barley was at 17<sup>s</sup>/6<sup>d</sup> and 18<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup> per Coomb. If at 18/0, Mr. Bloome owes me 9. o. o. To Charles Wibley, Blacksmiths Man o. 1. o. To Tom Short, Wheel-wright's Son o. 1. o. To Weston Ringers o. 2. 6. To Weston Singers o. 2. 6. Dinner to day, Souce fried & boiled Beef &c. Recd. for Butter to day at 1<sup>s</sup>/1<sup>d</sup> o. 2. 8½. Wheat amazingly dear indeed 3. Pound, & three Guineas, per Coomb given it is said.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note to entry for October 29, 1795, preceding.

Dec. 28, Monday. . . . Willm. Mason of Sparham with his Wire Musick was at my House this Morning and his Wife came with him. I gave them Victuals & Drink and 2. o. I sent a Note by them to Mr. Stoughton with 8. Magazines & Reviews, which he lent me lately. Dinner to day boiled Pork & a Goose roasted &c. Nancy & self played Back-Gammon this Even'.

Dec. 31, Thursday. . . . Our keeping Room or Study, smoaked a good deal to day, the Wind being high and SWS.

### Anno Domini 1796

1796, Janry. 1st., Friday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. To my Butcher's Lad, Peter Sharman, gave this Morning a Christmas Gift of o. 1. o. To my Malster Man, Jos. Edwards, Xmas Gift o. 1. o. Dinner to day, boiled Pork, hash Mutton & a Pudding. Gave Nancy this Afternoon being New-Years Day her annual Gift of the Sum of 10. o. o but her pleasing me to day I added to it o. 10. o which made it ten Guineas.

Jan. 2, Saturday. . . . Billy Bidewell brought our Papers from Norwich. Very little News on the Papers, People rather More peaceable, tho' Wheat still very high.

Jan. 5, Tuesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Brewed a Barrel of common Beer to day, one Coomb of Malt and one Pound & half of Hops which makes a thirty six Gallon Cask. Mem. In the boiling of the Beer this Morn' I saw a great Number of thick brownish kind of Bubbles swimming on the surface of it, very much like Ratafee-Cakes, and they are called in Norfolk, burying-Cakes, and the common People say here that is a sure sign of some of the Family or their Friends dying very soon. I never saw them before.

Dinner to day, Peas Soup & a Turkey roasted &c. To the poor Man that had a bad fall from a barley Goff in a fit, sent by a Woman 0. 1. 0. [Opposite the entry about the Beer Parson Woodforde has drawn a pointing hand.]

Jan. 6, Wednesday. . . . Paid all my Servants this Morning their Wages for the last Year, that is to say. To Benjamin Leggatt 10. 0. 0. To Bretingham Scurl 9. 0. 0. To Elizabeth Dade 5. 5. 0. To Sally Gunton 5. 5. 0. To Timothy Tooley 2. 2. 0. I let Betty go to see her Friends at Mattishall this Morning. Ben carried her in my little Cart. Dinner to day Neck of Veal roasted &c. Gave to Tim Tooley extra 2<sup>s</sup>/6<sup>d</sup>.

Jan. 7, Thursday. . . . Nancy had two Letters this Afternoon, one from my Niece Pounsett from Bath, and the other from her Brother Sam. from London, all well. A Girl from Lenewade-Bridge brought them from one Thorne, a Butcher there, and he had them Yesterday at Norwich, I gave the Girl for bringing them to my House 0. 6. The Letters came to 2<sup>s</sup>/1<sup>d</sup>, one of them being charged double on Account of a little strip of Paper being inclosed in that from Bath. Thank God they are both well, my Sister Pounsett wonderfully recovered by drinking the Bath Waters. They have taken Lodgings in Bond-Street, No. 10, Smiths. Sams Letter to his Sister, chiefly about himself. Am truly glad my Sister Pounsett is so much better.

Jan. 12, Tuesday. . . . Very mild indeed for the Season, Therm. 78. I beat Nancy at Back-Gammon this Evening very much indeed, five Gammons & four Hitts. Polly, Cow [who had had a Cow Calf on the preceding day], having a very hard dug, I sent for Gould the Farrier to come and look at her, which he

promised he would in the Afternoon but did not come at all. It was very wet. I ordered her dug therefore this Evening to be well rubbed with Hogs Lard & often milked. It was remarkably dark this Afternoon about 4. o'clock and much Rain soon followed but still very mild indeed, windy rather.

Jan. 13, Wednesday. . . . Gould the Farrier came here this Morning and looked at my Cow, she is better than she was. He ordered her Dug to be rubbed with Ointment and often patted with cold Water, milked often & walked about when dry Weather, she is to have some Physick in the Evening, to prevent her having the Gargut. He says she'll do well. Dinner to day, boiled Fowl & Tongue & rost Beef.

Jan. 14, Thursday. . . . Cow, Polly, much better to day, Dug softer. Dinner to day, rost Loin of Pork &c. In the Evening, the Cow was much worse, swelled much in her Body, and our folks much afraid of her being in a bad way, I therefore ordered Ben to go for Gould early to morrow-morning to see what he can do for her.

Jan. 15, Friday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Cow, Polly, much better this morning, and not so much swelled, looks more lively & eats her food very well. Ben, however went after Gould this Morning, and he came about 11. o'clock and looked at her, and dressed her Dug with some warm Vinegar and Turpentine mixed together, and left a Drink for her in the Evening to be given her. Gould says that she is now in no danger. To an old broken Butcher by name Cole from Ipswich in Suffolk gave o. o. 6. We were busy this Morning in packing up a fine Cock Turkey and a fat Goose, which are to be sent to Morrow to Norwich, and from thence to Bath, to my Sister Pounsett at a Mr. Smiths No. 10. Bond-Street, Bath.



Nancy sent in the Hamper a very long Letter to her Cousin Jane Pounsett with some Patterns. We also sent them some dried Apples, some Turnip, and other Seeds for the Garden. Dinner to day, Souce, & a Leg of Mutton roasted.

Jan. 16, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this Morning to Norwich with the Turkey & Goose &c. for Bath. He returned home soon after 4. this Aft. Dinner to day rost Neck of Pork &c. Cow, much better to day, now likely to do. Recd. for Butter at 13<sup>d</sup> per Pint, o. 2. 8½. No Letters, and no St. James's Chronicle wch. we desired Mr. Bacon of Norwich to get for us. Briton brought us home some Fish, Skaite.

Jan. 17, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould, came to Town last night, but go back to Norwich in the Afternoon, I sent to them last night to desire them to dine with us to day, but they could not, as they return to N. Mrs. Corbould gave us a Call in the Morning. Mr. Sutcliffe did duty this Aft. at Weston Church. Nancy walked to Church, it being quite a Summer-like day, quite warm & Sunshine. Uncommonly fine for the Season. The Barometer up to 30, and the Thermometer in the Afternoon up almost to 90, above 89. We did not dine to day, till half past three. Dinner to day, Fish, Calfs Fry & a Bullocks heart roasted. I was very nervous to day. My Cow a great deal better this Morning. Mr. Corbould, did duty at Tuddenham and Honingham to day for Mr. Mellish. Mr. Sutcliffe at Marlingford & Weston for Corbould. They dined together at 1. o'clock at Hungate-Lodge. I would have had them all dine with us, but could not.

Jan. 18, Monday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. It being a fine Morning Nancy drove over to

Mattishall to see Mrs. Bodham and to enquire after poor Mr. Bodham. Briton went with her. Miss Woodforde returned to Weston before 3. o'clock. Had a pleasant ride there & back, and our Horse Punch performed very well, she told me, no Rain. Mrs. Bodham very glad to see her. Poor Mr. Bodham much altered for the worse. It is thought that he cannot long survive, fallen away amazingly, takes but very, very little notice of any thing. Laudanum and Bark his chief Medicine. Dr. Lubbock & Dr. Donne from Norwich have both been there lately, and they say that he is out of the reach of any Medicine, he might live some little time, but is beyond recovery. Nancy saw at Mrs. Bodhams, a young Gentleman by name Talbot & his Sister from Windham, and Mrs. Bodhams Sister Mrs. Balls, Mr. Wright &c. Mr. Collison sent us a Leash of Partridges about Dinner time by Billy Bidewell who dined with our Folks in Kitchen. We had for dinner some Calfs Pluck fried, a Couple of Rabbitts boiled & Onion Sauce & a Couple of Ducks roasted. Billy Bidewell stayed & supped and spent the Evening with our Folks in Kitchen.

Jan. 20, Wednesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Gould came again this Morning to look at my Cow, and he pronounced her to be not only out of all danger, but that there was no more occasion for him to come to her any more. I therefore paid him his Bill for the Cow & other Cattle, Horses being ill, of 1. 0. 0. Bowles my Mole-Catcher, & is besides a Warrener & catches Rabbitts, sent me by his Wife a fine Hare which he caught, gave her 0. 2. 0. It being a fine Morning we took a Walk to Weston House, went over it and Garden, and returned home by the Church to dinner. Dinner to day, Peas Soup, boiled beef &c.

Jan. 21, Thursday. . . . Most delightful Weather for the Season, Cow, Polly, so well as to go with the others.

Jan. 24, Sunday. . . . It being a very blustering wind most part of last Night, did not go to bed till after three o'clock this Morning, Nancy did not sit up. Mr. Sutcliffe served Weston Church this Morning. Dinner to day boiled Calfs Head & Bacon and a fine fat Goose &c. Mr. Corbould called upon us about 5. o'clock this Evening, and he drank Tea, supped and spent the Evening with us till after ten. He sleeps this Evening at his own House. He returns to Norwich to Morrow Morning. No News stirring at present at all at Norwich.

Jan. 30, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. The Barometer being very low last Night at 10. o'clock I did not go to bed till after 3. o'clock this Morning, as I expected rough Winds, but it was perfectly calm all night. Dinner to day, a boiled Chicken & Pork &c. Barometer still low, down to 28=16. Mrs. Cary brought our News for us, and a Letter for Nancy from Jenny Pounsett from Bath to thank us for the Turkey & Goose &c. They got very safe and in very good time. I was sorry to hear that my poor Sister Pounsett was not so well as when we heard last. They were highly pleased with our present. Mr. John Burge & Wife being at Bath were partakers of the Turkey.

Jan. 31, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mr. Sutcliffe served Weston again to day in the Aft. We got back into the Study to dinner, the Wind being changed towards the East. The Barometer still very low, down to 28=18. We dined soon after 2. o'clock being Sunday, and as divine Service begins about 2., that my Folks May go to Church and dine

afterwards. Dinner to day, boiled Pork, & a fine Turkey roasted. We did not go to Church to day, but I hope we did what was acceptable to God at home.

Feb. 3, Wednesday. . . . Very busy this morning in spreading some family Plaister on black Silk. . . .

Feb. 4, Thursday. . . . Several stragling People about the Parish to day offering trifling things to sell, five went by here. Dinner to day, boiled Pork & hash Mutton &c. Mr. Maynard called on us this Morn' did not stay any long time. Told us that Alderman Partridge of Norwich had failed & to a considerable amount.

Feb. 5, Friday. . . . Mr. Custance arrived this Evening at Weston House from Bath. Mrs. Custance &c. left at Bath. We sent to enquire for Mr. Custance this Even' by Briton, who brought back a Letter from Mrs. Custance to Miss Woodforde, all well.

Feb. 6, Saturday. . . . Mr. Custance was so kind as to Make us a long Morning Visit. He looked very thin. Received for Butter this Morn' at 1<sup>s</sup>/1<sup>d</sup>, o. 3. 3. Dinner to day, Mutton Soup, Beef Steaks &c. Billy Bidewell brought our News from Norwich. On Monday Night last, their Majesties were insulted on their return from Drury Theatre. A Stone was thrown and broke one of the windows of the Kings Coach, no other damage.

Feb. 9, Tuesday. . . . Widow Greaves Junr. who in the last Summer lost a Cow, waited on me this morning with the Petition that was drawn up for her on the Occasion with the List of the Subscribers. She had collected near Six Pounds, had bought another Cow for four Pounds, so that she was a great Gainer by her loss. I gave her, this Morning (as I happened not to be at home at the time) o. 5. o. Dinner to day,

fryed Pork & Turnip Green, a Duck roasted and some Apple Fritters being Shrove-Tuesday.

Feb. 11, Thursday. . . . Young Longdale from Mr. Corboulds called here early this Morning to borrow a Horse to go out a coursing with a Party from Hungegate. I lent him my old little Mare by name Jenny. Dinner to day, boiled Leg of Pork & Peas Pudding. My Mare was sent home about 9 o'clock this Evening by Lane with a Hare and a small Loaf of mixed bread, 3. parts Wheat, 1. Barley. Gave Lane for bringing the Hare 0. 1. 0. There is a large Party at Mr. Corboulds, all young Men. They killed 2. brace of Hares. Out from 9. in the Morn' till 5. in the Afternoon.

Feb. 13, Saturday. . . . Mr. Maynard of Morton buried John Thacker of Ling (but who belonged to this Parish) this Afternoon at 2. o'clock in Weston Church Yard. John Thacker was 76. Years of Age. Mr. Maynard officiated for Mr. Corbould. Dinner to day, boiled Pork & a Hare roasted. I sent Mr. Custance this Evening as we baked to Day, one Dozen of Raspberry Puffs and some sweet Cakes which he used to be fond off. Billy Bidewell brought our Newspapers to day.

Feb. 15, Monday. . . . To one John Turner an old decayed Fisherman with a petition, gave 0. 1. 0. He was the Man that brought me once some very indifferent Spratts.<sup>1</sup> I had 70. Children this Morning at my House after Valentine Money, each 1<sup>d</sup>, 0. 5. 10. ...

Feb. 16, Tuesday. . . . To a poor Man, with a Petition, gave 1. 0. To one Burdon, a Scotchman, who travels with a Cart, selling Muslins &c. a very well speaking, decent Man, paid him for  $\frac{1}{2}$  Yrd. Cambric 4. 6. . . .

Feb. 17, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Stoughton made us a

<sup>1</sup> For the incident of the 'indifferent Spratts' see entry for January 15, 1793.



Morning Visit, as did Mr. Custance when he was with us. Dinner to day, Giblet Soup & a Loin of Mutton &c. Nancy had a Letter this Evening from Miss Pounsett brought from Norwich to Weston House with Letters to Mr. Custance—The Death of my Uncle Thos. Woodfordes Wife occasioned by a late fall she met with, wch. broke one of her thigh bones, and being at an advanced Age, above 84. could not be set. Pray God! her death may be succeeded with Bliss.

Feb. 19, Friday. . . . Had a Note this Evening from Mr. Custance informing us, that he could not dine with us on Tuesday next, being obliged to go to Sr. Edmund Bacons at Ranningham.

Feb. 20, Saturday. . . . Recd. for Butter this Morn' at  $1^s/1^d$ , o. 2.  $8\frac{1}{2}$ . Charles Cary brought our Newspapers to day. Wheat & Barley, both advanced again in price. The former at 58/0. The latter, 17/0. per Coomb.<sup>1</sup> . . .

Feb. 21, Sunday. . . . Nancy had a Letter from her Brother Willm. at Gallhampton, brought by Mr. Custance Farmer, Mr. Betts at the Hall-Farm. Mr. Corbould called on us this Morning as he went to Weston Church. We did not go. Dinner to day Loin of Veal roasted &c.

Feb. 23, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Stoughton of Sparham and Mr. Maynard of Attlebridge, dined, and spent the Afternoon and part of the Evening with us till after 9. After Coffee and Tea, we played two Rubbers at Whist, Mr. Stoughton & self, against Miss W. and Mr. Maynard, we lost both Rubbers, as we played Sixpenny Whist we each lost o. 3. o. We dined in the Study and drank Tea &c. in the Parlour. We had for Dinner, a boiled Leg of Mutton & Caper Sauce, Peas

<sup>1</sup> For some observations on comparative prices see vol. i, pp. 43-4 and

Soup, a very fine Cock Turkey roasted, Tarts & Mince Pies. The poor old Apparitor, Robberson, dined here. Feb. 27, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning with 10. Coomb of Barley to Mr. Bloomes at Norwich. Nancy sent a Letter to her Brother Sam. by him. Ben returned home about 4. o'clock and brought us Newspapers &c. but no Letters. He also paid me for the Barley he carried which he recd. of Mr. Bloome at 17<sup>s</sup>/6<sup>d</sup> pr. Coomb, 8. 15. 0. Recd. for Butter at 1<sup>s</sup>/1<sup>d</sup> per Pint 2. 8½. Dinner to day, boiled Beef, &c.

March 2, Wednesday. . . . I was very nervous to day about Noon, much troubled with Wind which fled to my Head at times, brave after dinner. It might be owing to my drinking Tea for breakfast and eating but little at it.

March 5, Saturday. . . . No true relish to my Victuals, very poorly indeed, much oppressed with Wind.

March 6, Sunday. . . . Mr. Corbould called on us this Morning as he went to Weston Church, but did not stay long. He came from Norwich this Morning, and a bad Journey as it snowed most part of the Morning and very cold indeed all the day. Mr. Custance was at Church this Morning. We did not go being so very cold, & myself very indifferent all the day long. The cold Weather affecting me so very Much, no Appetite. Dinner to day, Breast of Veal roasted &c. The Afternoon Mostly fair but very cold and very hard Frost, froze within doors at night.

March 8, Tuesday. . . . Very indifferent to day again, especially abt. Noon, very cold & trembled much, had a hard matter to shave myself to day.

March 9, Wednesday. . . . Very ill this morning, having had little or no Sleep all last Night, so very cold. A general Fast this Day. Mr. Corbould read Prayers

only this morning at Weston-Church. Mr. Custance at Church, we were not. Mr. Corbould called on us as he went to Church. Dinner to day, boiled Veal & Pork &c.

March 12, Saturday. . . . Thank God! I feel myself more comfortable. Mr. Wilson of Lyng sent me a Note this Morning to desire me to lend him half a Guinea, which I sent to him, inclosed in paper o. 10. 6. Dinner to day, boiled Beef, &c.

March 13, Sunday. . . . Mr. Corbould called on us this Morning in his Way to Weston Church to do duty for me in the Afternoon. It being a fine day Nancy walked with Mr. Corbould to Church & back. Mr. Corbould came from Norwich, and returned as soon as he came from Church. He stayed but a little time with us, in going to Church & back. He drank a Glass of Wine here as he went to Church, having dined at his own House before. We did not dine till after Divine Service. Mr. Custance was not at Church to day. Recd. a Note this Morning from Mr. Custance informing us that Sr. Thos. Durant<sup>1</sup> will soon be married to a Miss Folkes, Daughter of Sr. Martin Folkes, all things agreed on. Dinner to day, Loin of Veal roasted &c.

March 16, Wednesday. . . . Very busy in my Garden all the Morning pruning up my Trees & Shrubs. . . .

March 17, Thursday. . . . Mr. & Mrs. Priest of Reephham with their Daughter Miss Mary Priest, Mr. Mellish, Mr. & Mrs. Corbould dined & spent the Afternoon with us, and did not leave us till near ten o'clock at Night. We had for dinner, Ham & 2. boiled Fowls, Peas Soup, a boiled Leg of Mutton & Capers, A very fine Cock-Turkey roasted, Puddings & Tarts. After

<sup>1</sup> For the Custance and Durrant relationship see foot-note, vol. ii, p. 345.

Coffee & Tea we got to Cards, two tables one Whist, the other Quadrille, at the Whist Table Mr. Mellish & Mrs. Corbould agst. Miss Mary Priest & myself. Mr. Corbould, Mr. & Mrs. Priest, and my Niece at Quadrille. I lost at Whist o. 3. o. Miss Mary Priest was left with us to spend a few Days at Weston, and she supped and slept at Weston Parsonage. We made it very late to night before we got to bed, after twelve o'clock.

March 19, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Miss M. Priest breakfasted, dined, &c. here again. Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with nine Coomb of Wheat to be carried to Mr. Bloomes. Nancy sent a Letter to her Cousin Jane Pounsett at Cole-Place, Somersett, by Ben. Much Sunshine but Air very cold still and a smart Frost last Night again. Wind ENE. Dinner to day, Neck of Mutton roasted &c. Ben returned home about 5. o'clock this Aft. having sold my Wheat at 2. 12. 6 pr. Coomb for which I recd. of him in Bills & Cash 23. 12. 6. Nancy with Miss M. Priest, made a long Morn' Visit to Mrs. Corbould at Hungate Lodge. I did not attend them, Mr. Corbould was gone to Norwich.

March 20, Sunday. . . . Recd. this Morning by a Man from Cossey who brought it Yesterday from Norwich, a flash Baskett in which was a very fine fore-Quarter of Lamb, London, sent to us by Mr. Webb of London and Carriage paid. Gave the Man o. 1. 6. It was brought us about 10. o'clock this Morn'. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould called on us this Morn' on foot, in their way to Weston Church, and both our Ladies walked with them to Church and back with them. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould on their return spent but a few Minutes with us. I asked them to dine on some Lon-

don-Lamb but they could not. I sent them some at Dinner. Dinner to day, some boiled Skaite, and the London-Lamb roasted &c. I did not go to Chutch this Morn', not well.

March 21, Monday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Miss Priest breakfasted, dined, &c. here again. A Mr. Wordingham of Reepham, Surgeon, a young Man, and who pays his Addresses to Miss Mary Priest & have been accepted by all Parties, called at my House about Noon & he stayed, dined, & spent the Afternoon at Weston Parsonage. Left us about 7. this Even'. About one o'clock Mr. Custance with his Brother Mr. Press Custance called on us and stayed more than an Hour with us. They requested myself & Niece to be witnesses to their signing some Letter of Attorney or &c. Dinner to day, Fillett of Veal roasted &c. Mr. Wordingham & Miss M. Priest were walking in the Garden when Mr. Custance & Brother called, they did not make their Appearance.

March 24, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Miss Mary Priest breakfasted, dined and spent the Afternoon with us. About Noon Mr. and Mrs. Priest of Reepham came after their Daughter and they dined & spent the Afternoon with us, and stayed till near 8. in the Evening. After Coffee & Tea we got to Quadrille, won o. 6. Miss Mary Priest went with Mr. & Mrs. Priest. . . .

March 27, Sunday, Easter-Day. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Very cold this Morning with a good deal of Snow. Mr. Corbould called here about 2. o'clock this Afternoon in his way to Weston Church. I fully intended to go to Church this Afternoon but the Weather proving very cold with continual Storms of Snow, Hail, and Wind also high, prevented us both.



A colder or more disagreeable Day of Weather has not happened this Year. I dont know that I ever remembered so cold and uncomfortable, unpleasant an Easter-Day. Dinner to day, Loin of Veal roasted &c.

March 29, Tuesday. Paid my Butcher, Willm. Stoughton, this Morn' a Bill for Meat from December 1st. 1795 to the 26. of March 1796, of the Sum of 14. 12. 0. Recd. of him for a Calf, 5<sup>st</sup> 13<sup>lb</sup> 1. 15. 7. Paid him therefore the Balance 12. 16. 5. Recd. likewise of him for Tallow 0. 1. 6. Paid Aldridge (who called here this Morning) for a Piece of Irish Cloth for Shirts at 2<sup>s</sup>/6<sup>d</sup> pr. Yd. and two Yards & half of brown corded Ververet for Breeches at 4/6, 3. 13. 9. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould with Miss Corbould made us a short morning Visit.

April 2, Saturday. . . . Mr. Stoughton of Sparham made us a Morning Visit. I lent him White on Bees. Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with 9. Coomb of Barley, he returned abt. 6. o'clock this Evening. Betty Cary went wth. him, to bring home some Shop Goods. My Barley was sold at 14/0 Per Coomb, of which Mr. Bloome sent me a Note, no Cash. . . .

April 3, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mr. Corbould called here this Morning in his way to Weston Church. I walked with him to Church, where Mr. Corbould read Prayers and administered the Holy Sacrament at which I was present. I gave for an Offering 0. 2. 6. It gave Me Much pleasure & Satisfaction in my Attendance this day on Divine Service. It was ever my greatest Pleasure to pay that homage to our great Creator which even only from Gratitude, it demands. It gave me also pleasure to see so many Communicants—25 or 26—present. Mr. Custance, was not at Church, neither were Mrs. Corbould or Miss Woodforde. Dinner to day, Loin

of Veal roasted &c. Sent a Note this Afternoon to Mr. Custance to desire the favour of his Company to dinner on Friday next or Thursday, and he fixed on Friday next.

April 4, Monday. . . . Mr. Custance sent us this Morning a small Trout. It being a very fine Morning we took a long walk about Weston till 3. o'clock, called at Mr. Corboulds saw Mr. & Mrs. Corbould, Mr. Eaton of Elsing. To Children to day gave o. 1. 3. Called at several poor People's Houses and gave them Money collected at the Sacrament. Dinner to day, boiled Beef & a Turkey roasted. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould gave us a Call this Afternoon.

April 5, Tuesday. . . . Brewed some strong Beer to day. A poor Man of our Parish by name Willm. Neeve, very subject to fits was found all but dead in a ditch with Water in it, near Howletts where he was at work for Howlett. He was carried home but died on the road. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould with their little Boy made us a Morning Visit, but rather a short one. Old Roberson the Apparitor called here to day to let me know that the Visitation will be held at Reepham by our ArchDeacon Younge on Monday April the 25. next ensuing. He dined at my House as he generally does. Dinner to day Pigs Fry & a Leg of Mutton roasted.

April 7, Thursday. . . . Sent Briton to Norwich this Morning early with my little old Cart after Fish &c. for my Company that I expect to dine here to Morrow. Dinner to day, boiled Beef & hash-Mutton &c. Just as we were sitting down to dinner a little Cart of Mr. Jeans's of Witchingham with their 3. youngest Children & two Nurse Maids passing by my Gate, the Horse in it (being used to come here) would not

go on for some time, turned round two or three times, I walked out to them, & a Servant of mine led the Horse on. They were going to Mr. Corboulds, and about 5. o'clock this Evening they called and came in, but did not stay long. I take it very strange.

April 8, Friday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Recd. for Butter this Morning at  $1^s\ 0\frac{1}{2}^d$ , o. 4.  $8\frac{1}{2}$ . Mr. Custance, Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, Mr. Mellish of Tuddenham, and Mr. Stoughton of Sparham, dined and spent the Afternoon with us, and did not leave us, till after 9. in the Evening. Each Gentleman had a Servant with him. It was very near 4. o'clock before we sat down to dinner, Mr. Corbould coming very late to us. Mr. Custance was with us by half past two. He brought us a brace of Cucumbers, very fine ones, and the first we have seen this Year. It was extremely kind of Mr. Custance. We had for Dinner, a fine Cod's Head and Shoulders, boiled, and Oyster Sauce, Peas-Soup, Ham and 2. boiled Chicken, and a fine Saddle of Mutton roasted, Potatoes, Colliflower-Brocoli, and Cucumber. 2nd. Course, a rost Duck, Maccaroni, a sweet batter Pudding & Currant Jelly, Blamange, and Raspberry Puffs. Desert, Oranges, Almonds & Raisins, Nutts, & dried Apples, Beefans. Port & Sherry Wines, Porter, strong Beer & small. After Coffee & Tea, we got to Cards, limited Loo, at which I neither won or lost. Nancy lost  $5^s\ 6^d$ , Mr. Custance won abt.  $12^s\ 0^d$ . Mr. Mellish having no Silver, lent him o. 2. o. Every thing very well conducted to day. My Company seemed well-pleased &c. We spent upon the whole a very agreeable Day.

April 11, Monday. . . . Very cold, barren, growless Weather still.

April 13, Wednesday. . . . To Stephen Andrews paid

this Morn' a half Years poor Rate from Michaelmas last to the fifth of April last past at 1<sup>s</sup> 10<sup>d</sup> in the Pound which amounted to the Sum of 2. 15. 5½ as I am charged at 30. 5. 0 for Land in hand. . . .

April 14, Thursday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at home. At Betty Cary's Shop for a Qr. of Tobacco 0. 10. At Ditto for Snuff 0. 2. Gave to Widow Carr at the Shop 0. 6. We dined and spent the Afternoon and great part of Evening at Mr. Corbould's with him, Mrs. Corbould, Miss Corbould, Mr. and Mrs. Eaton of Elsing, Mr. Mellish & Mr. Stoughton. It was very late before we got to dinner, near five o'clock in the Afternoon, which made it very late before we got home, half past ten. It was near twelve o'clock before we got to bed, as we did not sup till near 11. o'clock. We had for Dinner, two boiled Codlings and Shrimp Sauce, Peas Soup, Fore-Qr. of Lamb roasted, Ham & two boiled Fowls, Patties & Veal Collops. 2nd. Course, Turkey roasted, Maccaroni, Jelly, Cheesecakes, Tartletts &c. Desert, Oranges, Apples, and Filberts and some Cherries in Brandy. Port & Sherry Wines to drink, and at Cards some white Wine mulled with an Egg in it. At Cards this Evening, Quadrille, lost 0. 1. 0. Mrs. Eaton seems rather consequential. Paid Mr. Corbould £3. 3<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup> to day to get three Receipts for the Powder Tax<sup>1</sup> from Norwich on Saturday next, as he goes to Norwich that Day.

<sup>1</sup> Pitt first taxed Hair-powder in 1786, but the tax was put on a personal basis at a guinea a head in the 1795 Budget. Pitt greatly over-estimated the yield of the tax, which caused a revolution in fashion. The Whigs now wore their hair short *à la guillotine*, as it was said, while those Tories who continued to use hair-powder were called *guinea-pigs*. (See Dowell's *History of Taxation*, vol. ii, p. 212 and Wright's *Caricature History of the Georges*, ch. XIII.)

April 16, Saturday. . . . Bidewells People brought our Newspapers from Norwich, and likewise three Letters, one for me from my Brother, another from Jane Pounsett to Nancy, and the other from Philip Servt. to my Sister Pounsett to Briton. My Brother's Letter informs me that Perry refuses to quit my Estate at Ansford after legal Notice, the Letter to Nancy to desire our Company in Somerset &c. Sent Mr. Custance some Raspberry Puffs & some Carraway Cakes.

April 20, Wednesday. We breakfasted, supped & slept again at home. Mr. Corbould made us a Morning Visit, soon after, Mr. Thorne, my Doctor, called on me and stayed a considerable time with us after Mr. Corbould was gone. I paid him a Bill of 3. 13. 6. It was after two o'clock before Dr. Thorne left us, and both of us quite undressed, so that we had to dress ourselves (being going to Mr. Mellish's to dinner) and to be at Tuddenham by half past three o'clock, if we could. At 3. o'clock I drove Nancy over in my little Cart to Mr. Mellishs, and did not get there till 4. o'clock, owing to Briton's being on foot. Mr. Corbould overtook us near Mouses House and went with us, he being going to dine there. The Party we met there was Mr. Mellish, Mr. and Mrs. Eaton, Mr. and Mrs. Howman and Mr. Corbould. All the Company met within ten Minutes of each other. Dinner was soon announced after our Arrival, which consisted of the following things, Salmon boiled & Shrimp Sauce, some White Soup, Saddle of Mutton roasted & Cucumber &c., Lambs Fry, Tongue, Breast of Veal ragoued, rice Pudding the best part of a Rump of Beef stewed immediately after the Salmon was removed. 2nd. Course. A Couple of Spring Chicken, roasted Sweet-breads, Jellies, Maccaroni, frill'd Oysters, 2. small



Crabs, & made Dish of Eggs. N.B. No kind of Pastrey, no Wheat Flour made use of<sup>1</sup> and even the melted Butter thickened with Wheat-Meal, and the Bread all brown Wheat-Meal with one part in four of Barley Flour. The Bread was well made and eat very well indeed, may we never eat worse. After Coffee & Tea we got to Quadrille, that is, Mr. Mellish, Mr. Corbould, Miss W. and self. Neither Mr. or Mrs. Eaton, nor Mr. & Mrs. Howman played at all at Cards, but were setters by. About half past eight we all took our Leave of Mr. Mellish and returned to our respective homes as we went, we got home about half past nine, as we went very slowly on Account of Briton's walking, who muttered very much about walking and when he got home was very impudent indeed, but I believe he had been making too free with Mr. Mellish's Beer &c. Mr. & Mrs. Howman are both high and consequential, the Latter remarkably so, if a Dutchess (by which name she is by some called) could not give herself more consequential Airs. Mr. Mellish is a very worthy Man I verily believe. No Affectation or Pride, but seems to have every good Quality that can belong to Man. I neither won or lost at Cards this Evening. Nancy lost 1<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup>.

April 21, Thursday. . . . Hubbard my Glazier called

<sup>1</sup> Probably this was a patriotic effort of Mr. Mellish's. Pitt was said to have suggested that people should eat meat to save bread—which was excessively dear as we have seen. Wright says that a caricature was published on July 6, 1795, representing the Minister as the 'British Butcher' serving John Bull with dear meat; this epigram is beneath:

*'Billy the Butcher's advice to John Bull.'*

Since bread is so dear (and you say you must eat),  
For to save the expense you must live upon meat;  
And as twelpence the quartern you can't pay for bread,  
Get a crown's worth of meat,—it will serve in its stead.'

(See Wright's *Caricature History* &c., ch. XIII.)

here this Morning he is to put in a new Window into my Chancel towards the East—The present being very bad. I walked up this Morning to the Church and there met Hubbard, and settled about it. . . .

April 24, Sunday. . . . Had a gouty Pain this morning before I got up in the Heel of my right foot, lame by it. No Divine Service this Afternoon at Weston Church, the Chancel Windows being taken down to be repaired—The large East Window & 2. side ones. We dined at 2. o'clock to day and had for Dinner, Leg of Lamb roasted &c. &c. We had some Rain this Morn' but not much. Mr. Custance called on us between 5. & 6. o'clock this Evening, and drank Coffee & Tea with us. He stayed till near 8. o'clock. Had the Pain in my foot all the whole day but by no means very bad, thank God, excepting the Pain, am better in every other respect. I feel myself better with regard to my Spirits &c.

April 27, Wednesday. . . . Willm. Bidewell brought me a Horse to look at this morning, a long Tail, about 14. hands  $\frac{1}{2}$  rather blackish, tolerably made, but steps short, went pretty well in my little Cart, but not quite to please me, but the price asked for him was very high, nothing less than 20. Guineas which I thought a great deal too much for him, in short he was by no means worth it. Mr. Corbould came here at the time with his little Cart & a Man with him in it, trying also a new Horse in it, a noble black Horse 15 hands  $\frac{1}{2}$ , which he lately bought & gave 30. Guineas or 30. Pounds for, the other looked nothing to it. I told Bidewell, it was too much Money, and that he must take him away, which he did. James Pegg soon after came to my House for half a Years Taxes & which I paid him 10. o. 3. Dinner to day, boiled Veal & Pork

&c. In the Afternoon we walked to the Church to see how the Chancel-Windows went on. Mr. Corbould gave us a Call again in the Evening a little before 8, but did not stay long.

May 1st., Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. No Service at Church this morning, being under repair. A Most gracious Rain almost the whole night. Lord make us thankfull for the same. All Vegetation seems at the height of growing. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted &c. Mrs. Corbould went to Norwich to day to stay there till she is brought to bed.

May 3, Tuesday. . . . This being Mattishall-Gaunt-Day, my Maid Betty Dade went to see her Friends, who live at Mattishall, she had leave to stay till to Morrow night before she returns. Ben carried her in my little Cart thither. N.B. Bottled off the Mead, that I made in November 25. last, 25. Bottles in all made use of, very good. . . .

May 6, Friday. . . . Gave my Boy, Tim Tooley, being going to Norwich to Morrow to get some Cloaths o. 5. o. Billy Gunton, Brother to my Maid, and who at present lives at Michael Andrews being in a low way—I had some talk with him on it at the desire of Michael's Wife.

May 7, Saturday. . . . My Boy, Tim, walked to Norwich this Morning and returned in very good time in the Evening. I gave him 2. pair of very good Worsted Stockings to day, which I promised Yesterday, that he might not buy much of that Article. . . .

May 8, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. By particular desire of Billy Gunton, & which I promised him on friday last, as this day to administer the H. Sacrament to him, himself with his Mistress

Mrs. Michael Andrews, came to my House about 11. o'clock this Morning and I then had them into the Parlour and there administered the H. Sacrament to them and which I hope will be attended with due effects both to him, Mrs. Andrews & myself. I put on my Gown and Band on the Occasion. Mrs. Andrews appeared to pay as much Attention to Billy Gunton, tho' her Servant, as if it was really her own Son—very good of her. It gave me great pleasure, tho' far from well in doing what I did, as it will ever give me pleasure to do any thing in my power, that may give any satisfaction or ease to any person whatever, especially to the distressed. No Service at Church this Afternoon, the Church not being fit. Next Sunday I hope there will. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted &c.

May 10, Tuesday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. I privately baptized a Child of John Lillystone's this morning at My House by name, Elizabeth. Dinner to day, hashed Mutton & Pudding &c. Hubbard the Glazier dined with our folks to day. He finished my Chancel Windows this Aft. On going to bed to Night, our Boy Tim Tooley who was supposed to have been gone to bed was not to be found—All his Cloaths gone also. It is thought that he is gone to Norwich to enlist himself, as his Head has long run on a Soldiers Life. His being at Norwich last Saturday & then offered ten Guineas if he would go for a Soldier, determined him.

May 11, Wednesday. . . . My Boy Tim Tooley was supposed to have slept in my Barn last night, and that very early this Morning he marched off for Norwich to enter into his Majesty's Land Service. Richmonds eldest Son is likewise gone. They both agreed last

Sunday to leave Weston and enlist. Both our Maids being gone most of the Morning to Church, to clean it against Sunday next, we helped dressing our Dinner which was a piece of rost Beef & a Suet Pudding. Gave Willm. Nelson, my Carpenter this Even' o. 1. o.

May 12, Thursday. . . . Mr. Corbould gave us a Call this Morning, did not stay long—His Wife has made him a present of another Son—Mrs. Corbould finely. Dinner to day, cold rost Beef &c. No Cooking to day, both my Maids being at Church in cleaning of it against Sunday next. Recd. for Butter this Evening at  $11\frac{1}{2}^d$ , o. 8.  $1\frac{3}{4}$ . Stormy rather this Afternoon and cold. Gave a little Girl of Bowles's o. o. 6. Tim Tooley's Brother, 'Thomas, entered my Service in his Brothers Place.

May 16, Monday. . . . My late Servant Lad, Tim Tooley, called on us this Morning. He came from Norwich with a Cockade in his Hat, and says he has entered himself in the thirty third Regiment of Foot.<sup>1</sup> Poor Fellow, he appeared happy & looked well. I paid him what Wages were due to him and half a Crown extraordinary, in all 17. 6. Dinner to day, some more Eels fried, mince Veal and some boiled

<sup>1</sup> The 33rd Regiment of Foot was the regiment which Colonel Wesley—afterwards the Duke of Wellington—commanded in the Netherlands campaign 1794–5. In November 1795, the regiment under Wesley embarked with other regiments for the West Indies. But the Transports—many of which were in a disgraceful condition—together with the accompanying Fleet met with a terrific gale in the Channel on November 17th. One ship sank and many were dismasted. Hundreds of soldiers were drowned. The 33rd regiment was disembarked and sent to Poole, whence in April 1796 it sailed for India, reaching Calcutta in February 1797 (see Sir Herbert Maxwell's *Life of Wellington*, vol. i, pp. 18–19). We would give much to learn what ultimately befel Private Timothy Tooley, whose enlistment fortunately took place after the storm and the embarkation for India. All we know is that he remained a little while longer at Norwich.



Pork &c. Merry doings at the Heart to day being Whit-Monday.

May 17, Tuesday. . . . This being Whit-Tuesday, the Members of Weston Purse-Club, made their Annual Procession with Fife & Drum. I gave them as usual o. 10. 6. I privately baptized this morning at my House a Child of one James Pollard's by name Sarah. He was lately Servant to Mr. Corbould and married their Servant Maid, Sarah Dunnell. Dinner to day, boiled Beef & Loin of Lamb roasted. Merry doings at Morton this Afternoon. Mr. Custance drank Coffee & Tea with us this Evening, and stayed till near nine o'clock.

May 21, Saturday. . . . Bidewell's People brought our Newspapers. Parliament dissolved Yesterday.

May 23, Monday. . . . To a disabled Marine, on his road to Town 1. o. Dinner to day, Fillett of Veal roasted &c. A Contest for Norwich is talked of at the approaching Election which will be very soon.

May 25, Wednesday. . . . Election of Members for Norwich to day, a strong Contest, one of the Gurneys<sup>1</sup> put up, in opposition to Mr. Wyndham.<sup>2</sup> It is supposed however that Mr. Wyndham will succeed—Henry Hobart<sup>3</sup> quite secure of being the other Member—Mr. Wyndham very unpopular at present at Norwich amongst the Revolutionists and which are great Numbers at Norwich, especially Dissenters. Knuckle of Veal & boiled Tongue for dinner to day. Mr. Stoughton of Sparham called upon us this Aft. whilst we were at Tea and he joined us. He was just

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. iii, p. 140.

<sup>2</sup> Windham was now Secretary of State for War in Pitt's administration: for some account of him see p. 219, vol. i.

<sup>3</sup> See foot-notes vol. ii, pp. 125 and 310.

come from Norwich. When he came away it was talked of that the Election would be over about 7. o'clock this Evening, and that Wyndham when he left Norwich, had several head of Gurney. Mr. Stoughton left us about 8. o'clock.

May 26, Thursday. . . . Mr. Corbould called on us this Morning being just come from Norwich. The Election for Norwich ended last Night in favour of Hobart & Wyndham. Mr. Corbould brought us a Couple of Maccarel, the first we have seen this Season. We took a Walk to Weston House about Noon and spent an Hour with Mr. Custance who is very low on the thoughts of leaving Weston very soon and going to Bath till next Year. Whilst we were walking to Weston House, Mr. Custance walked to our House, as we heard from Mr. Custance who soon came to us at Weston House. We went towards Morton to go to Weston House, or else we should in all probability have met Mr. Custance who came across Weston-great-Field. Mr. Custance very genteelly and very earnestly desired that we would send at any time and the oftner the better for any thing whatever his Garden produced. Next to his Brother, he desired that we might be served. Dinner to day, a Couple of Maccarel boiled and stewed Gooseberries & Leg of Mutton roasted &c. Mr. Corbould called on us again just as we had dined & he drank a few Glasses of Wine with us. Recd. for Butter this Evening at  $10\frac{1}{2}^d$ , o. 7. o. Mr. Wyndham had upwards of 100. Majority above Bertelett Gurney on the Close of the Election.

May 27, Friday. . . . Tim Tooley, late a Servant of ours, but now a Soldier gave us a Call this Morning, he still continues at Norwich and continues firmly attached to the Army. . . .

May 28, Saturday. . . . An Opposition for the County strongly reported. Mr. Custance very busy on the Account, went to Norwich this Morning & stayed all Day & Night. Dinner to day, fryed Beef and Cabbage, a green Goose roasted & a Gooseberry-Pye.

May 29, Sunday. . . . Mr. Maynard read Prayers & administered the H. Sacrament this Morning at Weston Church for Mr. Corbould who went to Honingham &c. We did not go to Church this Morning, neither did Mr. Custance attend, he being not come home when we sent to Weston H. this Morning. A strong opposition for the County is still all the talk, which is the reason I suppose of Mr. Custance remaining from home, he being a staunch Friend for Sr. J<sup>o</sup> Wodehouse.<sup>1</sup> Dinner to day, Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c. Mr. Corbould called on us this Evening whilst we were at our Tea, & he drank a Dish with us. Tom Thurston, my Clerk, dined with our Folks in the Kitchen, being Sacrament Sunday.

May 30, Monday. . . . Had a fat Pig killed this Morning that weighed ten Stone and seven Pounds. Mr. Corbould called on us again this Morning, but did not stay long. I paid him for serving my Church for the last half Year, due May 22, 1796 the Sum of fifteen Pounds—15. 0. 0, A ten Pound Note of Backs & a five Guinea Note of Kerrisons, he returned to me the Balance. I took no receipt, but Nancy saw me pay the same. Recd. for Butter to day at  $9\frac{1}{2}^d$ , 0. 7.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ . Sent up to Weston House this morning to enquire after Mr. Custance, but he is not returned yet, neither any tidings whatever of him. I am sadly afraid that the Peace of the County at the approaching Election for Members which is on Thursday next, will be disturbed

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. ii, p. 135.



WESTON HOUSE





by some designing, artful, & republican People— Every thing is carrying on very private indeed. Various People talked of for Candidates, but no advertising, or Nomination Day fixed. Dinner to day, Eels fried & Hash-Mutton &c. Our Room smoked very much to day, the SWW. Wind being uncommonly rough, quite tempestuous at times with heavy Storms of Rain and Hail. Barometer extremely low to day, at one time it was down to 28=12, which was as low as far as I remember, as ever I knew it to be. N.B. Yesterday or Day before in the Afternoon we saw a Rainbow, which we took notice of being so near the Horizon, & the Arch so wide.

May 31, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Maynard called on us this Morning and applied me for my Interest at the ensuing County Election for Sr. John Wodehouse and Thos. Hare Esq. of Stow Bardolph near Downham. I told him that mine would be a single Vote if wanted for Sr. John Wodehouse only. Soon after Mr. Stoughton called on me and desired that I would vote for Mr. Coke,<sup>1</sup> gave him the same answer as I did to Mr. Maynard. Soon after Mr. Stoughton was gone, Mr. Girling came and informed us that he had heard from Mr. Custance and he desired Mr. Girling to get all the Votes he could for Sr. John Wodehouse. Besides Mr. Coke & Sr. John Wodehouse, Colonel Harbord, Mr. Dillingham, Mr. Buxton, and Mr. Hare, have been talked of for Candidates. The four last entirely against Mr. Coke. Dinner to day, Giblet Soup, Pigs Fry &c.

June 1st, Wednesday. . . . Nancy breakfasted at home, and about one o'clock She went off in my little Curricule for Norwich to make Mrs. Corbould a lying in Visit and to spend a few days with her. Briton went

<sup>1</sup> See foot-notes, vol. ii, p. 127 and vol. iii, p. 60.

with my Niece. This day it is said there will be a Nomination for County Members. The Election being to Morrow at Norwich. So that Nancy will be in the midst of it. Sold 2. of my little Pigs, not 6. Weeks old till to Morrow, to Charles Cary for 1. 2. 0 and which he paid me for immediately and had them away directly. Had a Note this Morning from Mr. Custance, who came home last Night, to inform me that all matters relating to the Election were he hoped settled, and that there would be no Opposition but the old Members re-elected. Busy to day in cutting down some Trees in my Garden, they being too thick. Briton returned home about 8. o'clock this Evening, Nancy got very well to Norwich and well pleased with her excursion. Dinner to day, Neck of Veal roasted &c.

June 2, Thursday. About 6. o'clock this Morning the Weather being fine I got into my little Curricie and Briton with me, and drove for Norwich, the general Election for the County, being this day; we got there about half past seven; put up my Cart at the Wool-Pocket in St. Giles, and after walking about the City till 8. I went to Mr. Corboulds in St. Giles's and there breakfasted with Mrs. Corbould Senr., Miss Corbould, and my Niece A. M. Woodforde. Old Mr. Corbould is at Weston. Mrs. Corbould did not breakfast below. After breakfast I walked towards St. Giles's Gates and saw Sir John Wodehouse & his Friends make their entry into the City, which was a pretty sight, a band of Musick preceding. Mr. Coke and his Friends came into the City at St. Austins Gates, both Parties meeting in the Market Place. They then proceeded to the Shire Hall on the Castle Hill, where after going thro' the several Forms, Sr. John Wodehouse and Mr. Coke

were elected without any oppsoition.<sup>1</sup> They then were chaired three times round the Castle Hill, and thrice round the Market Place. After the whole was over I walked about the City and paid some Bills &c. and at three dined and spent part of the Afternoon with Mrs. Corbould, Miss Corbould, and my Niece. Mr. Corbould did not dine with us as he dined with Mr. Coke and his Friends at the White Swan. Sr. John Wodehouse & his Friends dined at the Kings Head. Tho' I am a Friend of Sr. Johns yet I would not with him, as they have a late Dinner, and I intending to return home to sleep. We had for dinner to day, three small Maccarel, a small odd piece of boiled Beef & a fore Quarter of Lamb rosted. No Pudding or Pye whatever. At Six this Evening I left the City and returned home to Weston by eight o'clock safe & well thank God, and had little or no Rain whatever. A good deal of Rain fell between 12. and 2. to day. It began to cease just as the Members were getting out of the Hall to be chaired, very little after. Paid Mr. Priest, Wine-Merchant a Bill of 6. 2. 0. Paid Mr. Buckle, Ironmonger, ditto 0. 12. 9. Paid Mr. Sudbury, Upholsterer, ditto 0. 5. 0. Paid Mr. Steward, Lawyer 3. 2. 7½. Paid Mr. Bacon, Bookseller a Bill of 0. 9. 0. To a pair of Gloves to day paid 0. 2. 0. To other trifling expences pd. abt. 0. 1. 3. Magazine for May included in the above. I was pretty well tired by the time I got home this Evening, had a fine boiled Chicken for my Supper about 9. o'clock, smoked a Pipe of Tobacco with some Table Beer, and about 11. o'clock went off, quite tired for my Bed.

<sup>1</sup> Norfolk was thus represented by a Tory and a Whig respectively. The result of the General Election elsewhere was to confirm Pitt decisively in power.

June 3rd, Friday. . . . Recd. of my Butcher for three small Pigs 1. 12. 0. I dont remember I think such a Day of Weather as we have had this Day ever in June before. It rained I believe most of last Night and incessantly this whole Day, with very rough Winds. Most of the Rain was pouring, My Yard quite overflown, and all the Dykes quite full. It continued so almost the whole Night, the Wind was so high & Rain beat so much, that I did not go to my bed till it was full Day light abt. 3. Mem. A New Moon on a Saturday and full also on a Saturday, as it happened last Month, is a prognostic (as many old People here say) of very rough, and bad Weather. Dinner to day, boiled Maccarel, & Loin of Pork roasted &c. Recd. for Butter to day at 9½<sup>d</sup>, 0. 6. 4.

June 4, Saturday. . . . Still very rough, tempestuous Weather, not quite so much Rain. We are quite flooded in the Yard. I promised to send for Nancy this Morning from Norwich, but the Weather proving so very bad prevented me, tho' I wish for her home. I told Nancy before Miss Corbould on Thursday last, that I would send for her on Saturday. Miss Corbould was totally silent on the Occasion, did not express the least desire of Nancys staying any longer. Miss Corbould they say, is like her Father, rather penurious and stingy. Mr. Custance drank Tea with me this Evening and stayed till after 8. o'clock. He came walking. He goes for Bath on Monday next. Mr. Custance quite sorry to leave Weston House. Dinner to day, boiled Beef & a rost Chicken &c.

June 6, Monday. . . . After breakfast I sent Briton with my little Cart to Norwich after Nancy, who returned home to Weston, safe & well between 7. and 8. this Even' and very glad to be at Weston Parsonage again,

where she supped & slept in her own Room. Mr. Cus-  
tance went for Bath this Morning about 10. o'clock,  
and sorry enough to leave Norfolk. Very busy all the  
Morning in my Garden, as I am taking down some  
Trees, being too thick together. . . .

June 8, Wednesday. . . . Sent Ben, to Norwich this  
Morning early, with my great Cart, to bring home  
some Wine for me. He returned home by 4. o'clock  
with the same. Had 3. Dozen of Port Wine 13. to the  
Dozen this Morning of Johnny Reeves at the Heart for  
wch. I paid him, at 29<sup>s</sup>/0<sup>d</sup> per Dozen 4. 7. 0. I like-  
wise had of him one Gallon of Rum for which I also  
paid him 0. 16. 0. Dinner to day, Rabbit Pudding &  
a Goose roasted. Finding myself rather poorly to day,  
I took some Rhubarb this Evening on going to bed.

June 9, Thursday. . . . Very sadly this Morning after  
my Rhubarb. Very busy nevertheless most of the  
Morning in settling Accounts with our Folks, unpack-  
ing my Wine and bottling off 2. Gallons of Rum. A  
bad Pain in my Bowels the whole day, the Rhubarb  
last Night operating very strongly, eat very little to  
day. Gouty Wind in my Stomach also very trouble-  
some. Dinner to day, Maccarel boiled & 2. Chicken  
roasted &c.

June 10, Friday. . . . Bad Pain in my Bowels the whole  
Day again. I was obliged this morning to turn away  
my new Lad (Tom Tooley) as he would do nothing  
at all. . . .

June 11, Saturday. . . . In the room of my last Boy, I  
took one John Brand off France Green, this Morning  
on trial. . . .

June 12, Sunday. . . . No Service at Weston Church  
this Morning, as Mr. Corbould had three Churches  
to serve this day. Dinner to day, fried Souce & a



Couple of Chicken roasted and Asparagus, &c. I was very low to day, being far from well.

June 13, Monday. . . . Paid my Glazier, Stephen Hubbard, of Mattishall for Work done at Weston Chancel, putting in a new East-Window, &c. this Morning at my House, the Sum of 11. 1. 6. Something better to day, thank God for it. Dinner to day, boiled Pork (part of the Neck) and Greens, and cold Gooseberry Pye. Before Tea we took a Walk this Afternoon to Church to see the Church-Yard that is now repairing. In our return home we met Mr. Maynard coming from our House, and he turned back and went and drank Tea with us. He was rather bosky. He stayed till 8. o'clock & then went for home. I did not ask him to drink any thing besides Tea, as I saw that he did not want any thing else.

June 14, Tuesday. . . . It is reported that Mr. and Mrs. Jeans are going to leave Witchingham for 3. Years or so. We have not seen Mr. or Mrs. Jeans for 12. Months past.

June 15, Wednesday. I breakfasted, supped & slept again at home. Miss Woodforde, breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. It being a very bright Morn' I got up early, shaved & dressed myself, and immediately after breakfast abt. 8. o'clock, I got into my little Cart and drove off for Norwich, taking Briton with me. We got thither before ten o'clock. I got out of my Cart just before we entered the City, and walked down to Trowse-Mills to speak to Mr. Bloome, whom I found at home. He promised to call on me at the Kings Head and settle all Accounts at 3. o'clock this Afternoon. I stayed about half an Hour with Mr. & Mrs. Bloome and then walked back to Norwich thro' Kings Street to Tombland, and to my Taylors, Willm.

Forster, to whm. I paid a Bill for the last Year, of the Sum of 4. 11. 6. From thence Went to Mrs. Brewster's in Cockey Lane and paid to Miss Gillman, for Tea &c. 3. 18. 0. From thence went to Mannings my Brazier in the same Street but nearer the Market & paid him 3. 6. 4, for a new Washing Copper. Recd. of him for the old one, 29 lb. at 9<sup>d</sup> per Pd. 1. 1. 3. So that I paid him on the balance 2. 5. 0. From thence went to Oxley's, Hatter, in the Market Place and paid him for a New Hatt 1. 1. 0. From thence went to my Mercers, Smith, almost next Door to Oxley's, and paid him a Bill 6. 18. 0. From thence went to my Wine Merchant, Mr. Robt. Priest, and paid him for a Qr. of a Pipe of Port, had last Week, Discount for ready Money included 17. 0. 0. Corks and Cooperage &c. 0. 6. 6. Paid him also for 2. Gallons of Rum, had at the same time, at 16<sup>s</sup> 0<sup>d</sup> per Gallon 1. 12. 0. So that I paid him in the whole 18. 18. 6. I paid him the above at his Son John's House, who asked me to dine with him at his Sons, which I promised if I could—they dine at 2. o'clock. I then called at Mr. Corboulds, went in, but saw only a Servant, Mrs. Corbould and Miss Corbould were at home but above Stairs, but did not make their appearance, sending word down that they were dressing. Mr. Corbould Junr. was just walked out, it was said. Old Mr. Corbould I knew was at Weston. I never saw any thing at all of them all the time I was at Norwich which was till 5. in the Afternoon. I was obliged to go many times by their Door, my Cart being put up almost directly opposite their House, which is in St. Giles's. At 2. o'clock I went to Mr. John Priests and made a very good dinner on a fore Qr. of Lamb, with him and his Father only, Mrs. J. Priest in the Country. Paid Thos. Burroughs, Breeches Maker in London

Lane, for a Pr. of Breeches for Briton &c. 1. 4. 0. At three this Afternoon, I went to the Kings Head and there waited till near 4. o'clock before Mr. Bloome came. When he was come we soon settled Accounts. I paid him for Coals 15. 13. 6. And I received of him for Corn 43. 10. 0. So that I received of him on Balance 27. 16. 0. To my Barber, Frank Lofty, for a new Wigg 1. 1. 0. For a Glass of white Wine & Water at Ravens, pd. 0. 6. At Nosworthy's, for 2. Rolls of Pomatum, pd. 2. 0. For three Coombs also there, pd. 1. 8. To my Taylors Men, gave as a free Gift 1. 0. For some Cakes & Porter &c. pd. & gave 0. 6. At 5. this Evening got into my Cart and went for home. Almost immediately after we got out of the City, we had a very heavy Storm of Rain which made us wet thro' but it [did] not last long, having a new Hat on, it did it no benefit or good. We had very little or none after till we got home, which was about 7. o'clock, thank God safe & well.

June 16, Thursday. . . . Charles Priest, youngest Son, of Mr. Priest's of Reepham called here this morning with a Note of Invitation to dinner on Thursday Next at Reepham. Charles is about 15, he was on horseback & a Servant with him on two blind Coach-Horses. He eat a small Cake and drank a Glass of Sherry Wine. Old Mr. Corbould soon after called on us, he came to take Leave, being going to Norwich in the Afternoon and Mr. Corbould Junr. & Wife return to Weston from Norwich (where they have been some time) to reside again at Hungate-Lodge. They are to dine, the old Gentleman said, at Hungate to day. Dinner to day, Giblet Soup, & fore-Qr. of Lamb roasted.

June 17, Friday. . . . All kinds of Meat very high indeed at present. My Butcher charged me to Day for Beef

6½<sup>d</sup> per lb. For Mutton also 6<sup>d</sup> ditto. For Lamb, also 6<sup>d</sup> ditto. For Veal, also 5<sup>d</sup> ditto. Recd. for Butter to day, at 9½<sup>d</sup>, o. 4. 4¼. Dinner to day, Neck of Mutton boiled & a Goose.

June 18, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton early this Morning to Norwich with my old Little Cart after divers things. He returned about 5. o'clock this Evening with all things safe and well. No Letters. Our Maid Betty very bad about Noon with a violent Pain in her right Ear, something constitutional. On Evenig catching of Cold she is bad either in Ear, head or Stomach, something better towards the Evening but not much. Dinner to day, fryed Souce, & a Couple of Chicken roasted and a hot Gooseberry Pye &c. No great News stirring, rather bad than otherwise. Elections all over the Country pretty well over. Mr. Corbould gave us a flying Call this Evening. Many Mad Dogs, they say, are running about.

June 21, Tuesday. . . . To a Brief of one Purdy & others of Booton near Reepham, Sufferers, by a late fire, gave o. 10. 6. Paid Briton, this Morning, for divers things 2. 2. 6. Paid Betty, ditto for ditto o. 7. 5. Recd. for Butter to day, at 9½<sup>d</sup>, o. 6. 4. Had a Note from Mrs. Bodham of Mattishall just as we were going to dinner, informing us of the Death of her Husband poor Mr. Bodham who died Yesterday Morning about 7. o'clock. I am invited to his Funeral on Saturday Morning. He had been for a long, long time quite helpless. Pray God! He may be now eternally happy, and comfort his poor disconsolate Widow. Willm. Ward an old Servant of Mr. Bodhams came with the Note & carried my answer to it back. We had for Dinner to day, a Knuckle of Veal boiled and Root of a Tongue to eat with it &c.

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June 23, Thursday. . . . About Noon I drove Nancy over to Reepham, thro' Alderford & Booton, to Mr. Priest's where we dined & spent the Afternoon, with him, Mrs. Priest, their two Daughters Mary & Sally, their Brother Charles, Mr. and Mrs. Barnwell of Mileham and Mr. Wordingham of Reepham, Apothecary, who is to have Mary Priest. We had for Dinner, some boiled Maccarel but no Gooseberries, a fore Qr. of Lamb roasted, a Couple of very small Ducks roasted, a rich boiled Plumb Pudding, Blamange, and Gooseberry Tarts. Port & Sherry Wines to drink, with a nice Dish of Strawberries, and Almonds and Raisins. We drank Coffee & Tea about six o'clock, and at seven or there about, we got into our Curricule and after having a pleasant ride the way that we went in the Morning, we got home by half past 8. I like Mr. & Mrs. Barnwell very well, He is about my Age, Mrs. Barnwell rather older by her looks. Mr. Barnwell is a gentleman of considerable Property much afflicted with the Gout, has travelled a good deal over England, & well acquainted with Families.

June 25, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. This Morning about 9. o'clock, got into my Cart and drove to Mattishall to attend at the funeral of Mr. Bodham, an old acquaintance. I got thither about half past ten o'clock, and there stayed at the House till near half past two in the Afternoon before the Corpse was carried to Church. It was a very handsome Funeral indeed. Two mourning Coaches and four, one Mourning Chariot and pair, two Post Chaises, besides other Carriages. The Pall-bearers, were Mr. Smith, Vicar of Mattishall, Mr. Edwards, Rector of Hethersett, myself; Mr. Shelford, Rector of N. Tuddenham, Mr. St. John Priest, of Scarning,



and Mr. Howman Rector of Hockering. We each of us had a rich black Silk Scarf & Hatband, and a pr. of Beaver Gloves. Poor Mr. Bodham was fifty five Years of Age. Mr. George Smith, Curate of Mattishall, buried him. A great Number of People attended indeed. Chocolate, cold Ham, Veal &c. at the side Tables in the Room we were in, the best Parlour. We returned back to the House after the interment, took some little refreshment, and then each went to their respective homes. I did not get home to Weston to dinner till 5. o'clock this Afternoon. I took Briton with me. He had a black Silk Hatband and a pair of Gloves. I brought Nancy a pair of the best white Kid Gloves which was orderd by Mrs. Bodham. Nancy had saved me for Dinner a few green Peas & Bacon, and some rost Chicken. I was quite jaded when I got home and very hungry. I was very glad when I got home, for I much dreaded the Day, my Spirits being but indifferent, thank God however, I got thro' it extremely well.

June 28, Tuesday. . . . About Noon we took a Walk to Weston House and stayed there till near 3. this Afternoon. Whilst we were at Weston House, Mrs. Bodhams Nephew (Castres Donne) a Lad about 14. Years old came to us, and after shewing him the House & Gardens, he walked home with us and dined and spent the Afternoon with us, and after Tea, I sent Briton home with him to Mattishall. I sent Briton over this Morning to enquire for Mrs. Bodham, and Castres returned with him. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould drank Coffee and Tea with us, this Afternoon, and played a Pool at Quadrille, at which I won o. 2. o.

June 29, Wednesday. . . . Very fine Hay-making Weather, had a little Field put into Cock this Even-

ing, all my other is down and will be fit to cock to Morrow, if this Weather continues. This being Reep-ham Fair Day, I gave Briton leave to spend the Day with his Friends there. Dinner to day, Pork and Beans &c. Knights brought us from Weston House Garden this Morning, some Cherries & Strawberries, a Cucumber and some Colliflowers. I gave Knights for bringing them o. 1. o.

July 2nd, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton to Norwich this Morning with my little old Cart after things from my Taylors &c. Nancy sent a Letter by him to her Brother Willm. Briton carried Mrs. Corboulds Nurse Maid, Gascon, to Norwich, but did not bring her back, as he returned before she was ready, he returned abt. 4. Recd. for Butter this Evening at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>d</sup>, 3. 2.

July 6, Wednesday. . . . We intended driving over to Mattishall to make Mrs. Bodham a Morning Visit, but the Weather appearing very unsettled, we put it off, and very well we did, as it turned out very indifferent. Tim Tooley dined with our Folks in Kitchen to day. He has been to Chatham and is now enrolled. He is to remain at Norwich some time longer yet. . . .

July 7, Thursday. . . . We dined & spent the Afternoon at Mr. Corbould's with him, Mrs. Corbould, Miss Corbould, Mr. and Mrs. Howman, and Mr. Mellish. We had for Dinner some Maccarel, boiled Tongue & a Couple of Chicken, Loin of Mutton boned and stewed, Veal Collops, Beans, baked Dumplins and a fore Qr. of Lamb roasted &c. Second Course A rost Goose, green Peas, Lemon Cream, hot Lobster, Tarts & Tartlets. Desert, Scarlet Strawberries 2. Dishes. Wines, Sherry and Port. No Cards introduced, Mrs. Howman not liking them. About 9. we returned home

as did all the Company. We dined about 4. o'clock. Coffee &c. at 7.

July 9, Saturday. . . . We were very busy all the Morning in our Garden in raking Gravel about our Walks. . . .

July 10, Sunday. . . . Mr. Corbould read Prayers & Preached this Morn' at Weston Church. He called on us as he went & as he returned from Church. We did not go as it had rained in the Morn' & likely to do again. Mrs. Corbould was not at Church owing to the same. Dinner to day at 2. o'clock, Leg of Mutton roasted &c. We had a fire in the Study to day, being very damp and Air cold with some Rain.

July 14, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. It being a fine Morning I drove Nancy over to Mattishall and made Mrs. Bodham a Morning Visit, being the first since the Death of poor Mr. Bodham. We found her at home, her Sister Mrs. Balls, Miss Johnson and little Miss Donne, Niece to Mrs. Bodham. Old Mr. Hewitt called there also whilst we were there. We stayed about an Hour, and then returned home to dinner. Called at Betty Englands at E. Tuddenham late a Servant to poor Mr. Du Quesne. When at Tuddenham we went to the Church and saw the Monument put up lately by Mr. Townshend for his Friend & Relation Mr. Du Quesne. It was the plainest I ever saw, it is Marble, but nothing more than a mere Slab, only wrote on. The Character given of him is very great.<sup>1</sup> We got home before 3. o'clock. Had for dinner a large Piece of Beef boiled &c.

July 15, Friday. . . . Had the Weeds in my pond cut to day. Very hot Day indeed and very fair. Dinner to day, Neck of Pork boiled &c. Gave James Knights

<sup>1</sup> The Vicar of Honingham, the Rev. H. Lefroy, has very kindly sent me a copy of the inscription here referred to by Parson Woodforde. The

this Evening, for bringing some Peas & Beans, & Cherries to us from Weston House Garden by order of Mr. Custance o. 1. o. I was just going into bed to night about 11. o'clock, when Nancy alarmed me, by telling me that a Tempest was begun, & desired me to get up, which, as I had not put out my Candle, opened my Door and went down with her and stayed up till near 2. in the Morn'. About 12. there was a violent Tempest, much Lightning and but little Thunder. Thank God! it went off pretty soon.

July 16, Saturday. . . . Very busy all day in new gravel-

marble tablet is on the north wall of the Chancel of East Tuddenham Church:

In a vault near this place are deposited the remains of  
The Rev. Thomas Roger Du Quesne  
who died on the 15 of Sept. 1793  
In the 76th Year of his Age

His Father Gabriel Marquis Du Quesne in France (grand-son of the famous Admiral Du Quesne) from his attachment to the Protestant Religion left his native country upon the Revocation of the Edict of Nantz. His mother was a daughter of Sir Roger Bradshaigh Baronet of Haigh in Lancashire.

He was educated at Eton & was for several years Fellow & Tutor of Kings College Cambridge. In 1753 he was instituted to the consolidated Living of Honingham with East Tuddenham; he was afterwards colated to a Prebend of Ely, & he held some other Preferments.

His chearful Disposition & his aimiable qualities procured him a large circle of Friends but he never suffered the enjoyments of Society to interrupt his Parochial Duties which in the Manner he discharged them took up a very large Portion of his Time, for during a Residence of Forty years upon this Living he not only constantly served both his Churches himself, but he comforted the afflicted, he visited the sick, & he relieved the necessitous. Such a Man could not fail of being respected & beloved by his Parishioners. That he was so in an almost unexampled Degree, the grief which they all without exception expressed at the Loss of him, afforded a clear and affecting Proof.

This Marble was placed soon after his Death in the Parish, where he so long resided, that those who knew him best might bear witness to the Truths, which are thus recorded for the Purposes of paying a just Tribute to his Memory, & of holding him out an example to his successors.

ling my Walk close to the Hall Door. I sweated profusely. . . .

July 17, Sunday. . . . Mr. Corbould served Weston Church this Aft. at 2. o'clock. I did not go being unwell. Miss Woodforde went with Mr. & Mrs. Corbould in their new Chariot, which is very handsome. We did not dine to day till after 3. o'clock. We had some Peas and a Fillett of Veal roasted &c. for dinner to day.

July 18, Monday. . . . Drew my great Bason in the Garden this Morn' after breakfast, and caught one very fine Silver Eel, which weighed two Pounds, drew out also several small Carp all which I threw back again. Not one Tench seen. In all probability The Eel eat the Tench. . . .

July 19, Tuesday. . . . Willm. Bidewell & James Pegg called on me this morning, concerning the Dog-Tax,<sup>1</sup> to know how many Dogs I intend to pay for, two only.

July 20, Wednesday. . . . To a poor dumb Man, who sells Matches, gave o. 6.—a short Man rather but strongly made, very much tanned with the Sun, & without any kind of Shirt.

July 21, Thursday. . . . Our Maid, Betty Dade, went with Mrs. Reeve to Dereham in her little Cart, Betty went to see her Brother at the House of Industry<sup>2</sup> very

<sup>1</sup> Pitt taxed dogs in this year in order to make up the loss of revenue consequent upon the rejection of a proposal to increase the duty on printed calicoes and linen. The tax was in respect of sporting dogs only, or where more than one dog was kept. The tax, as usual, excited the caricaturist, and Gillray depicted Fox and his friends hanged 'as dogs not worth a tax'; on the other hand, Burke, as a friend of the Government, was drawn—together with other Government supporters—as a well-fed dog, 'paid for' with 'G.R.' on his collar. (See Dowell's *History of Taxation*, vol. ii, p. 215, and Wright's *Caricature History* &c., ch. XIII).

<sup>2</sup> See foot-note, vol. iii, pp. 383-4 for some account of the Workhouse system prior to the great reform of 1834.



near to Dereham, who is the Governor of it. They went Early in the Morning & returned in the Evening. . . .

July 24, Sunday. . . . Mr. Buckle from Norwich served Weston-Church this Morning for Mr. Corbould at half past 10. We did not go to Church, it having rained. Dinner to day Peas & Pork & Calf's Heart roasted. Gave Ben Leave to go to Crownthorpe for the Day. I let him have my Mare Phyllis to go there. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould called on us this Evening between Tea and Supper, stayed about  $\frac{1}{2}$  an Hour.

July 26, Tuesday. . . . To James Pegg this Morn' paid a Qrs. Land Tax 3. 0. 0. Dinner to day, Pork & Beans, & rost Beef &c. Mr. Corbould sent us the Beans, broad-Windsor.

July 28, Thursday. . . . Gave Knights this Morning for bringing Fruit &c. from Weston House Garden 0. 1. 0. Dinner to day, boiled Beef & Breast Mutton roasted. In the Evening we walked up to Mr. Corboulds and drank Coffee & Tea with Mr. & Mrs. Corbould, and Miss Corbould from Norwich. After Tea we played one Pool at Quadrille, won 0. 1. 0. We had from Weston House Garden to day, some French Beans, some Peas, & some red & white Currants. Britons Brother Joe dined with our Folks to day. We returned home this Evening about 9. o'clock.

July 31, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mr. Corbould did duty at Weston-Church this Aft. Mrs. Corbould at Church, as were Nancy & myself. Mr. Corbould rather late, 3. o'clock. We did not dine till four o'clock to day. Had for Dinner, some Fish, Haddocks boiled, and a Breast of Veal roasted &c. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould being upon a Walk this Evening, called on us a little before Supper drank a Glass of Mead, each, and were off.

Aug. 1, Monday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. I drove Nancy over to Mr. Stoughtons of Sparham this Morning, but he was not at home, being gone with Sr. John Lombe <sup>1</sup> to Belaugh this Morning. Sr. John breakfasted with him this Morning and is to dine with him to day. We saw Sr. John's Chariot, rather antient, Motto, Propositi tenax. We returned home by Weston House, got out there and walked down to the Garden, where unluckily My Dog, Ranger, killed a favourite Cat of Knights's. We got home to dinner by 3. o'clock, to some Beans & Pork, boiled Veal & a Currant Pudding. We had a very pleasant ride both going & returning. In the Evening we took a walk to Mr. Corbould's, but they were rode out in their little Cart. We called at poor Frank Clarke's, who is but just alive. His Death hourly expected. Gave the Woman who has been very attentive to him, 1. o. At Gates to Day, given to Children o. 2.

Aug. 3rd., 1796, Wednesday. . . . Races at Lenewade Bridge this Afternoon. There is at present a Gang of bad Fellows about this part of the County. Houses at Hockering, Tuddenham & Lyng &c. broke up.

Aug. 5, Friday. . . . Made some red Currant Jelly this Morning, four Pounds of Currants & four Pounds of the best Lump Sugar at 14<sup>d</sup>. per Pound.

Aug. 7, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mr. Corbould read Prayers & Preached this Morning at Weston Church. Mrs. Corbould at Church as were Miss Woodforde & self. Mrs. Corbould was so frightened at Church by a Bat flying about the Church, that she was obliged to leave the Church. Nancy went out also to attend her. They

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. ii, p. 203.

went to the Parsonage where Mrs. Corbould stayed till we returned. Mrs. Howlett was at Church and exhibited for the first time, a black Vail over her Face. Mem. Times must be good for Farmers when their Wives can dress in such stile. Dinner to day Loin of Veal roasted &c. Very fine and pleasant Day. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould with young Longdale, Miss Woodforde & self took a Walk this Evening after Tea, to Farmer John Buck's. Himself & Wife behaved very hearty & generous, we staid abt. half an Hour there, & returned home.

Aug. 8th., Monday. . . . It being a fine Morning, I drove down to Lyng and made the Revd. Mr. Anson<sup>1</sup> Rector of that Place my first Visit. He is but very lately come to reside. He is quite a young Man, very fair, of great Family. He has at present two younger Brothers with him. I stayed about half an Hour with them. Dinner to day, rost Beef &c. In the Evening between Tea & Supper we took a Walk to Hungate Lodge, found Mrs. Corbould at home but not Mr. Corbould, he was gone a fishing.

Aug. 9, Tuesday. . . . We dined & spent the Afternoon at Mr. Corboulds with him, Mrs. Corbould, Miss Corbould, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Ransom from Windham, Mr. Stoughton and his Brother an Attorney at Windham and who is at present Under-Sheriff for Norfolk, a sensible, clever young Man about 30. We had for dinner, some fryed Soals, Saddle of Mutton roasted, boiled Chicken & Pigs face, Pigeon Pye, Beans. —2nd Course, fricaseed Rabbit, a Couple of Ducks roasted, Trifle, pickle Salmon, green Peas, Currant Tarts & Tartletts. Desert a large Melon, Rasberries, Gooseberries and Currants. We walked thither and

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Charles Anson, Rector of Lyng with Whitwell, 1794–1827.

returned the same by nine o'clock in the Evening. Company broke up all at the same time. Mr. and Miss Corbould walked home with us by way of a walk, but would not walk in.

Aug. 10, Wednesday. . . . Whilst we were at Tea this Evening Mr. and Mrs. Townshend with their Daughter Miss Anne Townshend in a Phaeton & Pair, drove up to our Garden Gate, and they drank Tea with us and were very chatty. Mrs. Townshend brought Nancy a Novel to read called Joan, 4. Volumes, wrote by one Matilda Fitz John, published this Year. They stayed with us till near 8. o'clock.

Aug. 11, Thursday. . . . I drove Nancy this Morning over to North Tuddenham to Mr. Shelfords,<sup>1</sup> where we spent a very agreeable Hour with Mr. & Mrs. Shelford. It is the first Visit we have made them, since their coming to reside there after the Death of his Father.

Aug. 12, Friday. . . . Willm. Hardy & Brother James, Masons, being repairing Weston Chancel in the outside, I walked up to them about two o'clock and stayed there till near three, and then returned home to dinner upon Pork & Peas &c. . . .

Aug. 15, Monday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould, with old Mr. Corbould and Miss Corbould, dined & spent part of the Afternoon with us, old Mr. Corbould spent the whole Afternoon with us & stayed with us till 9. at night. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould and Miss Corbould being invited to a Tea Party by Mrs. Jeans at John Bakers near Weston House, left us between 5. and 6. this Evening, and went thither having promised. The

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Leonard Shelford, Rector of North Tuddenham 1795-1813; his father, the Rev. Thos. Shelford, had been Rector since 1750.

design is to see Weston House and Mrs. Jeans to give Coffee and Tea afterwards. She wanted to have it at Mr. Custance's Farm House, but the Farmers Wife Mrs. Best, would not give leave without Orders from the Family. Mr. & Mrs. Corbould & Miss, called on us on their return about 9. o'clock, and told us the whole. There was Tea & Coffee, Bread & butter, Cakes, and Ham. Company present, Mrs. Jeans with her Children & their Governess a Miss Hay, Dr. Baker, Wife & Daughters, Mr. Richd. Baker and Wife, Mr. Lloyd, Wife & Daughters, Mr. Copland, Wife & Children, Mr. & Mrs. Corbould & Miss, Dr. Bakers Sister, a Miss Moss, and Mr. Stoughton of Sparham. Mrs. Jeans very coolly invited us on Saturday last, but as they have behaved very so, so, to us, did not go. Mr. Corbould said that it was all Hurry & bustle &c. in a small Room, bricked Floor, with a Carpet.

Aug. 18, Thursday. . . . Begun shearing Wheat this Morning, and very fine indeed it is, have six Acres of it. Knights brought us more fruit &c. from Weston House Garden, gave him 0. 1. 0. . . .

Aug. 19, Friday. . . . Knights brought us this morning some Morelle Cherries from Weston Garden to preserve. Mr. Corbould gave us a Call this Morning, Mrs. Jeans with her Children are to spend the Day with them to day. He also told us that Sr. John & Lady Wodehouse were to dine at Howmans to day. About Noon I sent up some Fruit, Apricots and Cherries to Hungate Lodge to Mr. & Mrs. Corbould. Dinner to day, boiled Beef & a Couple of Chicken.

Aug. 21, Sunday. . . . Very hot again to day, fine Harvest Weather. We walked to Church this morning and heard Mr. Corbould read Prayers and Preach. Mrs. Corbould with an Elderly Woman a stranger



were at Church also. Miss Woodforde had a Letter this Morn' from Mrs. Custance at Bath. It came by a Carrier. They have heard from their Son George in the East-Indies, lately arrived there, safe & well. We dined at 2. o'clock to day on a Leg of Mutton roasted and a Cherry Pye &c.

Aug. 23, Tuesday. . . . About Noon I drove Nancy over to Honingham Hall, and made a Morning Visit to Mr. and Mrs. Townshend and to Mrs. Cornwallis now there. We met them at home, as were all their Children. We stayed about an Hour with them & returned home to Dinner upon a Neck of Veal roasted &c. During our being from Home, Mr. Mellish called at my House and left a Card and likewise a Note wrote at Weston, an Invitation to Dinner at Honingham on Tuesday next 3. o'clock. Will. Large's Wife brought us this Morning a very nice Leveret, caught amongst the Corn.

Aug. 24, Wednesday. . . . To Knights for Fruit brought us, gave o. i. o. Mr. Maynard called on us this Morning. Dinner to day, boiled Beef & a roasted Leverett. Mr. Corbould gave us a Call just before Dinner. Between Tea and Supper we took a Walk to Hungate Lodge and spent about half an Hour with Mr. and Mrs. Corbould. We met Mr. Stoughton there, and likewise an elderly Lady from Yarmouth by name Manning, a Relation of Mr. Corboulds, and who is but rather low in the World. She is on a Visit there, came there last Saturday. Mr. Corbould brought us a nice little Melon to day.

Aug. 26, Friday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Corbould with Mrs. Manning called on us this Morning, eat some Harvest Cake & had some Mead. . . .

Aug. 27, Saturday. . . . In the Night and early this

Morning there was a most gracious & heavenly Rain which lasted some Hours and did infinite Service indeed. It came also without any Thunder or Lightning, which ought still to make us the more thankful. I finished carrying all my Wheat last night, but one Load, and that is not cut yet, part of it cut this Morn & Aft., but Storms of Hail & Rain with some Thunder happening about 4. o'clock in the Afternoon, put a Stop to their Shearing &c. Young Stephen Andrews brought our Newspapers &c. Poor Francis Clarke who had been so long bad, died some time this Evening. An happy release I hope for him.

Aug. 29, Monday. . . . Mr. Corbould made us a long Morning Visit, he came to borrow some Lettuces of me, and he also brought us a Pamphlet to read, Count Rumford's Essay on smoaking Chimnies, and how to be perfectly cured. The Morning turned out very unsettled Weather. The Afternoon upon the whole proved fine. We finished shearing Wheat this Evening. Had only 6. Acres—10. Cart-Load all housed only 1. Cart Load remain in the Field, not fit to carry this Evening from the late Rain. Dinner to day, rost Beef, french beans &c.

Aug. 30, Tuesday. . . . Hazy this Morning again with some Rain, but warm. We dined & spent the Afternoon at Mr. Mellish's of E. Tuddenham with him, Mr. and Mrs. Shelford, and Mr. and Mrs. Corbould. Nancy went and returned in Mr. Corbould's close Carriage. I went in my little Cart & took Briton with me. We had for Dinner, a small dish of boiled and fried Eels, a Fillet of Veal rosted, a boiled Currant Pudding, Harrico of Mutton, Beef Steaks, a Chicken broiled, Meat Pies raised Paste. 2nd. Course, a couple of Ducks rosted, Mince Veal, Lemon Cream in Jelly

Glasses, Blamange white and Yellow, Peas, Stewed Cucumber, and Tarts. At the side Table Cold Ham & cold rost Beef &c. Poor Francis Clarke, who died on Saturday Night last was buried this Morning at Weston by Mr. Corbould, aged 67. Years. Mr. and Mrs. Shelford appear to be steady, goodnatured, unaffected kind of People. Mr. & Mrs. Shelford, Mr. Corbould and Miss Woodforde got to Quadrille. I played with Mr. Mellish at Back-Gammon; by way of Desert, at Mr. Mellish's common Apricot, Gooseberries & Currants.

Aug. 31, Wednesday. . . . We dined & spent the Afternoon at Hungate with Mr. and Mrs. Corbould, as did Mr. Mellish, Mr. and Mrs. Shelford, Mr. Howman, Mrs. Jeans, and with her Mr. Robt. Francis & his eldest Sister. Mrs. Jeans appeared more affected than ever. We have not been in Company before with her for near eighteen Months—much altered since. We had for Dinner, Peas Soup, Pigeon Pye, best part of a Rump of Beef roasted, Ham & two boiled Chicken, Broad Beans, and Patties. 2nd. Course. Fricaseed Rabbitts, baked Currant Pudding, Couple Ducks roasted, Blamange, Pickled Salmon, French Beans and Tarts. Desert, a fine Melon and some Plumbs. Soon after Coffee & Tea, we all returned to our respective homes, all in two Wheel Carriages—five in all. Mrs. Jeans had three in hers, and a little grey Horse in it about the Size of a Calf. We got home in our little Cart in about ten Minutes.

Sept. 1st., Thursday. . . . Harvest rather at a Stand at present, it being rather indifferent Weather for the same. We had twenty-eight Pound of exceeding good Honey from Nanny Spraggs to day, we are to give sixpence a Pound for it, quite cheap. . . .

Sept. 5, Monday. . . . At Noon to day, I walked up to Weston House to meet Mrs. Jeans &c. stayed and walked about there till near an Hour was expired, and then as I was just going to return home, Mrs. Jeans, with young Robert Francis & his Sister, came to Weston House in their little shabby Cart & poor little grey Horse. I walked over the House &c. with them and then they drove to my House and dined & spent the Afternoon with us, as did Mr. and Mrs. Corbould and Miss Corbould, They all left us by 8. o'clock. We gave them for Dinner, Harrico Neck of Mutton, Plumb Pudding, rost Beef, Couple of Chicken boiled, and a Pigs face & Roots. 2nd. Maccaroni, plumb-Tart, Codlin ditto, Blamange coloured, and Custards. Desert, Gooseberries and Currants, and plumbs of several Sorts.

Sept. 8, Thursday. . . . I privately named a Child of Harry Bakers this Morning at my House by name, Henry. It being a fine Morning we took a ride to Cossey with Mr., Mrs. and Miss Corbould, to see a Cottage of Sr. Willm. Jernegans,<sup>1</sup> fitted up in a very tasty Manner, and very fashionably furnished. I drove Mr. Corbould in my little Cart, and Miss Woodforde went with Mrs. Corbould and Miss C. in their Chariot. We got to Cossey about 12. and at the Cottage we met with Sr. William Jernegan who behaved in the politest Manner. Went with us over great part of his Plantations shewed us his new Tower, and new Garden &c. We had as pleasant a ride as I ever took, the Drive round Sr. Willms. Plantations is beautiful, so remarkably well laid out. The Drive round Sr. Willm. told me was 5. Miles & half,—four Hndrd. Acres planted with Trees by himself. The Lodges at

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. ii, p. 49.

different Parts very handsome. I gave to People at different places o. 3. o. We got home to our respective places to dinner at three o'clock, we had fryed Beef &c. for Dinner. We walked in the Evening to Mr. Corboulds, but did [not] stay long. The old Apparitor Thos. Robinson at my House this Morning during my being from home. Generals at Reepham the 30 Instant. Sept. 10, Saturday. . . . We finished Harvest this Afternoon, and thank God! had a fine Time for it, & all well. Sent a Note this Morning early by Briton to Mr. Anson at Lyng, to desire his and Brothers Company to dinner on Wednesday next, had a genteel Answer back, but they are engaged. Bidewell's Folks, got the Newspapers for us. The Austrians have beaten the French smartly of late, killed 5000, and taken 2000.<sup>1</sup> Serious apprehensions are entertained by many in high rank of the French invading England some time this Autumn. Preparations are making.<sup>2</sup>

Sept. 11, Sunday. . . . Briton spent the Day at Reepham with his Friends. Sent a Note by him to Mr. Priest, to invite him & Family to dinner on Wednesday next.

<sup>1</sup> The Archduke Charles, brother of the Emperor of Austria, had just heavily defeated the French who had crossed the Rhine in June and invaded Bavaria. By the end of October the French had been driven back across the Rhine. On the other hand the Austrians in the course of this year were defeated in Italy in battle after battle by Bonaparte, who now established his military fame.

<sup>2</sup> The French had for some time—with the aid of Wolfe Tone and other disaffected Irishmen—been actively organizing a great expedition for the invasion of Ireland. They had hoped that the expedition would be ready to leave Brest by September 1, but many delays occurred and it was not till December 15 that a strong fleet of many transports carrying 15,000 men under General Hoche set sail for Bantry Bay. The preparations were known to the Government, but the precise destination of this armament could not be positively known. It was certainly a time for 'serious apprehensions'. (See Lecky's *History of Ireland in the 18th century*, vol. iii, ch. VIII.)



I sent my Watch also by him to Symonds the Watch-maker to be cleaned & regulated properly. Mr. Corbould read Prayers & Preached this Aft. at Weston Church. I went to Church but Nancy did not, there being a thick kind of Haze. Mrs. Corbould was at Church, she went in their little Cart with Mr. Corbould. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Veal roasted &c. Briton returned home to Supper, brought me a Note from Mr. Priest, and that they will wait on us.

Sept. 12, Monday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. I dreamt last Night that I was at an Entertainment given by Mr. Coke at his House, amongst other Dishes there was a Faun roasted but cold, and plenty of Hares roasted, and cold also, &c. Mr. Coke very civil to me, on coming away I lost my Hat, some one had taken it, & I thought a Soldier. I thought however that I bought a second hand one of old Mr. Corbould, with many other things, all forgot. A Raven fled over my House this Morning. All which tokens are said to bode no good. To Largesses to day, gave o. 2. o. Dinner to day, boiled Beef &c. We drank Tea this Evening with Mr. and Mrs. Corbould at Hungate-Lodge, and played one Pool at Quadrille. I lost o. 1. 6. [Opposite the dream there is drawn the little pointing hand which Parson Woodforde uses only rarely for entries containing accounts of dreams &c.]

Sept. 14, Wednesday. . . . N.B. This is the first Day of Shooting this Season as lately appointed by the new Act of Parliament. Mr. Corbould & young Girling called on me this Morning and brought me a Leash of Partridges which was very opportunely, having Company to dinner to day—a great many birds about. Mr. Priest and his three Daughters of Reepham, Mr. and Mrs. Corbould & Miss Corbould dined and spent

the Afternoon with us to day. We had for dinner, some nice Soals fried, a boiled plumb Pudding, a fine Saddle of Mutton roasted, a boiled Tongue and 2. boiled Chicken, french beans & Potatoes &c. 2nd. Course, a Leash of Partridges roasted, Maccaroni, a Codlin Tart and Custards, & Cherry Tarts. Desert, a large Dish of Nectarines, green Gooseberries, red & white Currants & 2. Dishes of plumbs. Soon after Coffee & Tea, Mr. Priest & Daughters left us, Mr. & Mrs. Corbould & Miss C. stayed and played a Pool at Quadrille. I lost o. 2. o. I sent Ben to Norwich this Morning after fish. Mr. Maynard called upon us again this Morning. To a Largess this Morning gave o. 1. o. Poor old Mr. Priest<sup>1</sup> is very much broke of late. We spent upon the whole a very agreeable Day. Dinner good & very well done indeed. Port & Sherry Wines, bottled Porter, strong & small Beer.

Sept. 16, Friday. . . . Sudbury of Norwich, the Upholsterer, came to my House about Noon, and put up the Study Window-Curtain that has been lately dyed. He dined at my House upon some cold rost Saddle of Mutton &c. He had his dinner before us. We had for dinner, a Couple of Ducks roasted &c. In the Evening we walked up to Mr. Corboulds & drank Coffee & Tea with them & Miss Corbould and played one Pool at Quadrille. I won o. 2. o.

Sept. 17, Saturday. . . . Mrs. Bodham with her Sister Mrs. Balls, called here about one o'clock to go and see Weston House, therefore after having a little refreshment they went with us to Mr. Custances, they in their little Cart and we in ours. Saw the whole House and Gardens, and then returned home to Weston-

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Richard Priest, Rector of Refham *alias* Reeppham St. Mary  
1757-99.

Parsonage to dinner, which was not till between four and five o'clock this Aft. We gave them for dinner, a fine large Piece of boiled beef, a boiled Fowl & some Bacon, a Beef-Steak Pye hot, a Suet Pudding and a brace of Partridges roasted & Tarts &c. Mrs. Bodham and Mrs. Balls left us between 7. and 8. Mrs. Bodhams Man, Willm. Ward, drove the Cart.

Sept. 22, Thursday. . . . It was a small Frost this Morning and fair. I privately baptized a Child of Willm. Larges by name Henry, this Morning at my House. To Charles Cary, for a Peck of Onions, paid o. 1. o. Dinner to day Beans & Bacon & Rabbitt roasted. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould gave us a Call this Evening, just before Tea, but did not stay long, the Evenings now being cold, damp, and darkish.

Sept. 24, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. The Morning was cool. Afternoon fair. Evening cold with a kind of Scotch Mist. Dinner to day, Bullocks Cheek stewed, and a Neck of Mutton roasted &c. James Pegg brought our News for us to day, & likewise two Letters, One for me from my Niece Jane Pounsett, and one for Nancy from her Brother Saml. now at Stourhead. Miss Pounsett informs me that she and Mother had been lately at Weymouth for six Weeks, during the Time of the Royal Family being there, and that my Sister Pounsett was much better by going. And also she acquainted me that during her stay at Weymouth, a Mr. Grove a young Man & a Clergyman (and a quondam Admirer of Janes) had again paid his Addresses to her, and that she accepted of him & hope it will meet my Approbation. Nancy's Letter from her Brother informs her that he is at Sr Colt Hoares<sup>1</sup> at Stourhead with a full

<sup>1</sup> See foot-note, vol. ii, p. 210.

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House of Company, Lord & Lady Bruce, Lady Hoare &c.

Sept. 27, Tuesday. . . . About one o'clock I drove Nancy over in my Cart to Mrs. Bodham's at Mattishall according to appointment, and there dined & spent the Afternoon with Mrs. Bodham, Mrs. Balls, and Mr. Wright who married Mr. Bodham's Sister. We had for dinner a boiled Leg of Mutton and Capers, a Turkey roasted and a boiled Tongue, a plain boiled Pudding, and a Lemon Pudding baked. We had Claret, Port, and Sherry Wines to drink. We had but a poor Desert, nothing but Damsons. After Coffee and Tea this Afternoon I left the Company and drove home to Weston, leaving Miss Woodforde to spend a few Days with her Friend Mrs. Bodham, got home before 7. o'clock just before it was quite dark thank God very well. As we went to Mattishall we met a Waggon loaded with Brick, in that very narrow Lane almost in the middle of it, leading from France Green to the Turnpike beyond Beestons Lane. It alarmed Nancy much, we both got out. We did very well however, & the Man civil.

Sept. 29, Thursday. . . . Old Mr. Warren (Father of Mrs. Corbould) now at Mr. Corboulds, being taken ill, sent this Morning to my House for some Rhubarb, which I sent him. Mr. and Mrs. Warren came last Night to Weston. Mr. & Mrs. Jeans with young Ward, drove by our Gate between two and three this Afternoon, but did not call or enquire. They had no Servant. Master Ward, about 15—is Son of Lord Dudley & Ward, and is now under Mr. Jean's Tuition. Dinner to day, boiled Beef and a rost Chicken. Brewed a Barrel of common Beer to day.

Sept. 30, Friday. . . . Soon after breakfast I went in my

little Curricule to Reepham to the Generals there this Day. Briton went with me. We went by Alderford. Got to Reepham in an hour and Quarter, put up my Carriage at Mr. Priests, where I went first of all, saw Mr. Jeans and his Pupil Ward, at Mr. Priests, had very little Conversation. They were going to Blickling Hall instead of attending at the Generals. Revd. Mr. Norris of Fakenham preached, could not hear him distinctly. The Clergy present, were Mr. Ashley, in the Chair, Mr. Priest, Mr. Norris, Dr. Baker, his Son Richard, Mr. Sandiford, Mr. Bulwer, Mr. Maynard & myself. Mr. Morphew, Son, & Clerk Stoughton dined with us. We dined at the Kings Arms, and had for Dinner boiled Leg of Mutton very yellow, rost Beef, a Couple of rost Chicken & Ham very hard, a Couple of Ducks much overdone, plain & plumb Pudding very good, Apple Pye & Damson Pye. Desert, Apples, Damsons and old Nuts. For Dinner &c. I paid o. 4. 6. To forfeits, paid Morphew o. 2. o.

Oct. 1st., Saturday. . . . Betty Cary brought our News this Evening. Mr. Custance (which I was sorry to see on the Papers) has lost his youngest Daughter, Charlotte, in a putrid fever, at Bath—a very great Loss to them. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould (tho Saturday)<sup>1</sup> dined at Mr. Jeans's to day, on a Haunch of Venison.

Oct. 2, Sunday. . . . But very indifferent indeed to day, pain in my Bowels, owing to catching cold lately. I did not go to Church this Morning being ill. Mr. Corbould read Prayers & Preached at Weston this Morning. Mrs. Corbould walked with her Husband to Church, & called on me on their return. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Mutton rosted. Took a little

<sup>1</sup> For Parson Woodforde's views on Saturday junketings see also entry for June 12, 1762, vol. i, pp. 19-20.



Rhubarb this Evening. Gave Ben leave to go to Mattishall with Knights to see Mrs. Bodhams Hot-House &c. this Afternoon. He did not come home till between 11. and 12. at Night, it vexed & fretted me till quite ill. He was to have brought a Note from Mrs. Bodham to me, but he lost it out of his Pocket. Had a small Melon from Weston House this Morn'. Bad News again this Morning from Mr. Custances Family at Bath—Their youngest Son at the point of Death.

Oct. 4, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Corbould going to Norwich this Morning, I desired him to carry a Letter for me to the Post Office at Norwich—To my Niece J. Pounsett. I still remain very indifferent, cholicky Pains. I made some Mead this Morning, to twenty one Pounds of Honey, I put six Gallons and half, which after boiling one Hour, reduced it to six Gallons. It was very strong, too much so, unless it be kept more than a Year. Dinner to day, Breast of Mutton roasted &c. I eat pretty hearty for dinner, drank only two Glasses of Wine after dinner. To one Lancaster of Tuddenham, losing 2. Sows, gave o. 2. 6.

Oct. 6, Thursday. I breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Had very broken Sleep all night, very restless. I sent Briton after my Niece this Morning soon after breakfast, with a Note to Mrs. Bodham and a small Melon with half a Dozen Figs. Mr. Maynard made me a Morning Visit. Nancy returned home just at dinner time, and was lucky in escaping Rain, being a Showery Morn'. She was quite well and in high Spirits, never spent her time more agreeable than at Mattishall with her Friend Mrs. Bodham, who study to make everything pleasant to her Company. Her House full all the time that Nancy was there. Many Strangers she saw there, more particularly two Miss

Hewits, Nieces to old Mr. Hewits, the eldest of them, the prettiest and most agreeable young Lady that Nancy ever saw, but alas! It is very much feared that she is very far gone in a consumptive State—Oh! what Pity. Dinner to day, Neck of Mutton boiled &c. Thank God! was much better this Afternoon and Made a good dinner, much easier in my Bowels. One Glass of red Wine only after dinner to day. Mr. Stoughton of Sparham gave a short call on us this Evening. Came to ask me to dinner on Saturday, to meet Mr. Anson & Brother.

Oct. 8, Saturday. . . . Bidwells People brought our News for us to day and likewise a Letter for Nancy from her Aunt J<sup>n</sup> Woodforde now at Bath with my Brother & Mrs. R. Clarke. They are at Bath on my Brothers ill state of Health, having been violently attacked lately with very dangerous Spasms in his Stomach & Side. They are at Roubelle's in the Orange Grove where my Sister & Daughter with poor Mr. Pounsett were. Mrs. Willm. Woodforde is said to have a bad Cough, is gone to Lullworth for the benefit of Sea-Breezes. I hope they will do her good. Newspapers Mention hopes of a general Peace.<sup>1</sup>

Oct. 10, Monday. . . . My Boy, John Brand, left my Service to day, as he had proper Notice so to do, being the most saucy swearing Lad that ever we had, and am afraid that if he does not soon do better, he will bring his poor Mother with sorrow to her Grave. He can do his Work well if he pleases, but cannot be trusted out of Sight, but the worst is, he is profligate. Ben paid him his Wages due to him for four Months

<sup>1</sup> When Parliament met on October 6, the speech from the Throne had indicated that steps towards establishing a European peace would be taken, and an Ambassador sent to Paris for that purpose.

Service, due this Michaelmas at the Rate of two Guineas per Annum. He went before Dinner, and in the Evening my new Boy of this Parish by name Barnabas Woodcock between 11. and 12. Years of age, succeeded him. Dinner to day, Hash-Mutton &c. Pudding and a Goose roasted, being old Michaelmas Day.

Oct. 11, Tuesday. Willm. Aldridge of Norwich who carries about the Country, Cottons, Muslins &c. called here this Morning, and I bought of him 7. Yards of a bright striped Cotton for a Morning Gown, of a kind of plad Colour, for which I paid him at 2<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup>, o. 16. 4. Of Ditto, for 6. Yrds. of white Callico for a Lining to the same at 1<sup>s</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>. per Yard, paid, o. 7. o. I desired him also when he next sent to London which he should very shortly, that he would pay a Bill for me in Town, to one Mr. Lambert Peruke Maker in St. Clements Church Yard in the Strand, for a Wig had of him in Dec<sup>er</sup>. 1795. I let him have the Bill, & gave him Directions. We breakfasted, dined, again at home. Dinner to day, Loin of Beef roasted &c. Brewed a Barrel of Table Beer to day. Mem. Burying Cakes (as called in Norfolk) appeared in boiling of the Beer to day, like Maccaroon Cakes, which many People here think is a Token of some in the House losing a Friend by Death.

Oct. 14, Friday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. We made Mr. & Mrs. Corbould a Morning Visit, Miss Corbould and Mr. Willins [a young Divine from Norwich] at Hungate Lodge, returned home to dinner on a Hare &c. Recd. for Butter to day, at 1<sup>s</sup>/o<sup>d</sup>, o. 3. o. Just as we had dined Mr. Girling with one of the Chief Constables by name Copeman called on me to subscribe my name to an agreement, to

prevent Riots or any publick disturbances that may happen by being active in suppressing such. I told them that I heartily concurred in it, and would do all in my power, but did not think it consistent with the Character of a Clergyman to put his name to it, therefore I did not.

Oct. 15, Saturday. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Jeans and Family have left their House at Witchingham & gone to reside in London. They left Witchingham we heard this day. They have let their House ready furnished to a Revd. Mr. Beevor, Son of Mr. James Beevor of Norwich.

Oct. 18, Tuesday. . . . Mr. Corbould called on us this Morning for five Minutes, and stayed almost two Hours. He had been to Marry a Couple at Church by Banns, viz. John Hubbard, Widower, & Sarah Greaves, Widow. To Harry Baker for his Father who is Overseer for the Poor, paid a half Years Rate at  $1^s/6^d$ . from Lady [Day] last to Michaelmas 2. 5.  $4\frac{1}{2}$ . The whole half Years Rate amounted to 125. 6. 6. Dinner to day, Shoulder of Mutton roasted &c.

Oct. 20, Thursday. . . . Bought two Ferretts this morning of a strange Man of Yarmouth, a Male & Female, for which my Maid, Betty, paid him o. 6. o. . . .

Oct. 21, Friday. . . . Mr. Mann called on us soon after Dinner and told us that there had been a Gentleman at his house this morning from Norwich a shooting, who made enquiry after me. He is a Clergyman and lives near Taunton in Somersetshire, his Name is Freston, has a Wife and ten Children. Mr. Man's Landlord, Mr. Bretingham of Norwich is his Uncle and was his Guardian. He has the Living of Mendham near Bungay and has a good independent Fortune besides. He was formerly a Norwich Man. He knows

Mr. Thomas Woodforde of Taunton very well, is his Doctor.<sup>1</sup> I should have been glad to have seen him. He returned to Norwich to Mr. Bretinghams to dinner. He sets off for Somerset to Morrow. His name was formerly Bretingham, but changed to Freston for an Estate.

Oct. 25, Tuesday. . . . Barometer very high this Morning, 30-2, yet very wet and very cold indeed. Bad Weather for washing or rather drying. To Js. Pegg, for Taxes, paid this Morn., 8. 10. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ . Dinner to day, rost Beef &c. Mr. and Mrs. Corbould called on us this Aft. in their Cart, but did not stay long. They came to desire me to lend them 10. 0. 0 which I did in letting them have a ten Pound Note of Kerrisons, Banker at Norwich.

Oct. 27, Thursday. . . . Paid my Blacksmith (John Buck)<sup>2</sup> this Morn' his annual Bill for Work done 4. 8. 7. . . .

Oct. 28, Friday. . . . Gathered in my keeping Apples this Morn' had but very few Nonpareils or Pearmains but a good many large Russetts, and seven Bushel-

<sup>1</sup> i.e. Mr. Thos. Woodforde was the Revd. Mr. Freston's Doctor. Mr. or Dr. Thomas Woodforde was the son of the Rev. John Woodforde, Rector of North Curry, Somerset, uncle of the Diarist. He was baptized at Chessington June 21, 1743 and died in July 1828. He combined medicine with banking at Taunton, and was highly esteemed in both professions. Among his patients, if not creditors, was Lady Chatham, widow of the great earl, and mother of William Pitt—Burton Pynsent (for which see foot-note to p. 273, vol. ii), being only some eight or nine miles from Taunton. Thomas Woodforde married Harriet Waters, daughter of Thos. Waters of Blandford (see entry for Dec. 23, 1771, vol. i), and through the marriage of their daughter Mary to Dr. Thos. Kinglake he became the grandfather of the author of *Eothen*. I am indebted to my friend Dr. R. E. H. Woodforde for the particulars on which this note is based.

<sup>2</sup> The Smuggler, *alias* Moonshine Buck: see entry for June 6, 1788, and the foot-note to p. 373, vol. iii.



Baskits of the old true Beefans, so peculiar to the County of Norfolk. Willm. Thorogold, Gardner, here to day, to trim up, my Fig Trees & Vines, against rough Winds. Dinner to day, rost Breast of Mutton &c. Had one of my little Pigs killed, to have it roasted. Quite a cheery Day but Air cool.

Oct. 29, Saturday. . . . Recd. for Butter this Morning having raised it one penny in the Pint, 6 Pints o. 6. 6. Sent Briton this Morning to Norwich with my little old Cart to carry Mrs. Bidewell &c. Dinner to day, Mutton Soup & Rabbit roasted &c. Briton returned about 4. this Afternoon, he brought a Letter for me from my Niece Pounsett. She wants us to spend the Christmas at Cole. Somersett Militia at Norwich to Day, they are going on Monday next for Yarmouth in Norfolk.

Oct. 31, Monday. . . . Mrs. Bodham's Steward, Willm. Ward, and her Housekeeper, Mrs. Spooner, came to our House this Morning, to spend the Day with our Folks and to go and see Weston House, which they did, and afterwards dined with our Folks. They came in Mrs. Bodham's little Tax-Cart. They left our House about 5. o'clock this Aft. We had for Dinner to day, a boiled Neck of Mutton, a Couple of Ducks roasted & an Apple Pudding. Just as we had dined almost, Mr. Stoughton called on us in his Shooting Dress and brought us two brace of Partridges. I would fain have had him eat a bitt of dinner, but I could not prevail. He stayed but a few Minutes with us.

Nov. 5, Saturday. . . . Sent Briton over to Mattishall this morning to Mrs. Bodham's with a present of a nice roasting Pig from us to her. . . .

Nov. 6, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Mr. Corbould read Prayers & Preached this Aft. at Weston Church. He called on us as he Went

to Church & young Longdale with him. They each eat a Cake and drank a Glass of Wine. We did not go to Church, Nancy having a bad Cold, and myself but poorly, and it being very cold, there being a smart Frost this Morning. The general talk is now concerning an Invasion from the French—Mr. Pitt having Mentioned in the House of Commons that he had substantial reasons for believing it, but such as at present improper to mention. As Mr. Pitt is prime Minister, it is much credited throughout the whole Country, and creates a general alarm.<sup>1</sup> The Militia are to be doubled, and new Cavalry to be raised. Dinner to day, Skaite & a fine Hare roasted.

Nov. 7, Monday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. There being a Justice Meeting to day at Reepham, respecting Militia Men, and those inrolled concerning this Hundred in defence of it, against any Riots or disturbances that might happen—I sent my two Men, Ben and Briton (whose Names were put down some time back) this Morning to Reepham & there they stayed all Day but returned in good Time in the Evening abt. six o'clock, with two black Staves in their Hands with a black Leather-Guard for the Hand, and on the Staff were painted these Letters in white and figures 58, 59. E. H. L. A., viz: Eynesford Hundred Loyal Association.

Nov. 10, Thursday. . . . Mr. Maynard called here this morning and desired me to sign his testimonium on his having the perpetual Curacy of Haviland given him by Mr. Fellowes of Haviland. It is worth about thirty Pounds per annum. . . .

<sup>1</sup> See the foot-note to the entry for September 10, about the threatened invasion. On October 18, 1796, Pitt proposed in Parliament that 15,000 men should be enlisted for the regular sea and land forces, the militia increased by 60,000, and 20,000 irregular cavalry raised. These proposals were approved.  
(Pitt's *Speeches*, vol. ii, pp. 430-43.)

Nov. 12, Saturday. . . . We gathered some white Currants from a tree in the walled Garden this Day about Noon. Dinner to day, Giblet-Soup, with odds & ends. Bidewell's People brought our Newspapers. Admiral Elphinston's Squadron off the Cape of Good Hope had fell in with a Dutch Squadron and captured every Ship without firing a single Gun—9. Ships, 342 Guns, 1972 Men. Admiral Elphinstone's Fleet consisted of 14. Ships, too great a Match for the Dutch. The Dutch Admirals Name is Lucas. They took our Fleet for the French Fleet, Admiral Richery's, which were to have joined them there and to have retaken the Cape of good Hope.<sup>1</sup>

Nov. 13, Sunday. . . . Mr. Buckle from Norwich did duty this Morning at Weston for Mr. Corbould, Mr. C. having the Churches of Honingham and Tuddenham to serve for Mr. Mellish, he being from home. Miss Woodforde was at Church, I did not go. Nancy says that Mr. Buckle was but an indifferent Reader and Preacher, she did not like him at all. Mr. Corbould dined with us between one and two o'clock, but could not stay long after dinner having Tuddenham Church to do duty at in the Afternoon at three o'clock. We had for dinner to day, Norfolk Dumplings, Neck of Mutton boiled & Capers, & a Goose roasted &c.

Nov. 19, Saturday. . . . James Pegg brought our News

<sup>1</sup> Following the offensive alliance concluded between the Dutch and the French against England in the Spring of 1795, the English Fleet had proceeded to capture the Dutch colonies. The Cape of Good Hope and Ceylon had been taken in that year (1795) by Admiral George Elphinstone (1747–1823), better known by his later title of Admiral Viscount Keith. Elphinstone's subsequent victory here described by Parson Woodforde took place in August of this year, but the news had only just arrived. It was to be Lord Keith's destiny nineteen years later (1815) to receive the surrender of Napoleon at Plymouth,—the Admiral was in command of the Channel Fleet—and to dispatch him to St. Helena.

from Norwich. No good News upon the Papers but rather the contrary on Account of the late Act for augmenting the Militia—Riots talked of very much about it—Rebellion said to be in Ireland, & the French at the bottom of it.<sup>1</sup>

Nov. 21, Monday. . . . The Militia augmentation Act makes a great deal of talk amongst the lower ranks of People.

Nov. 24, Thursday. . . . Another Meeting to Day at Norwich respecting the late Militia Augmentation Act, of the Lord Lieutenant &c. for the County of Norfolk. . . .

Nov. 26, Saturday. . . . Sent Ben early this Morning to Norwich with ten Coomb of Barley to Mr. Bloome. Ben carried a Box of Cloaths & some Butter in a Basket to Mr. Corboulds at Norwich, sent here last Night from Hungate-Lodge. Ben returned about 5, this Evening, and of him recd. for my Barley at 14<sup>s</sup>/6<sup>d</sup>. per Coomb 7. 5. 0. He brought a Letter also for Nancy from her Cousin Jane Pounsett who is now at Bath with her Mother and my Sister White. I was sorry to see on the News this Evening, the Death of poor Mr. Aldis of Bungay, late Butler to Mr. C. Ben brought us home some Skaite at 1½<sup>d</sup> lb. and some Salt Fish, but dear 6<sup>d</sup> per lb. Ben having put an old Hat into one of the Sacks in the Inns Yard at Norwich both Hat & Sack were stole out of the Cart. Butter sold to day, 5. Pints at 1<sup>s</sup>/1<sup>d</sup>, 0. 5. 5.

Nov. 27, Sunday. . . . Mr. Girling brought me a fine Woodcock this Morning as he went to Church. Mr.

<sup>1</sup> There was no actual rebellion in Ireland at this time, but the country, specially Ulster, was seething with discontent. The stronghold of the United Irishmen was Belfast and the hatred of England was as strong or stronger among Presbyterians than among Catholics. Wolfe Tone, who was assisting the organization of the French expedition of invasion at Brest, was a Protestant. (See Lecky's *History of Ireland in the 18th Century*, chs. VI, VII, and VIII *passim*.)

Corbould just called as he went to Church this morning. We did not go being very damp. . . .

Nov. 28, Monday. . . . I bought a small Colt with a white face going into his fourth Year, abt. 14. Hands, of one Neale near Lenewade Bridge a very civil Man, an Husbandman, I soon agreed with him, and paid him for the same 6. 6. 0. It is a Mare, and very poor at present. Dinner to day, boiled Pork and Cottage Pye. Washing Week.<sup>1</sup>

Nov. 29, Tuesday. . . . Very fair & very cold, it froze all Day. Dinner to day, Leg of Mutton roasted. To J<sup>rs</sup> Petchel Junr. of Mattishall for his Father [paid] a Bill this Aft. for 2. Dozen of Hurdles had May 28, 1795, paid him 0. 15. 0. Very cold this Evening & some little Snow. My new Mare shod this Morning for the first time since [s]he has been foaled.

Dec. 1st, Thursday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. A great deal of Snow in the last Night and rough Wind, quite deep where drifted. Very cold but not so cold as Yesterday. Mr. Corbould came from Norwich this Morning to marry a Couple by Licence, Sally Baker of this Parish & Samuel Pye of Swannington. Mr. Corbould called on us after marrying them. I paid him half a Years Salary due Nov<sup>er</sup>. 22. for serving Weston at 30. Pr. Annum 15. 0. 0. that is, a 5. Guinea Note & 10. Pd. he had before. Mr. Corbould paid me for Tithe this Year 1. 4. 0. He drank a Glass of red Wine & Water here and between one & two went off for Norwich. Recd. this Morning of one Willm. Kemp of Ling for a Copy of the Register of

<sup>1</sup> The last entry of 'Washing Week' was on October 24. After November 28th the next entry is made on January 2, 1797, and the next on February 6. Presumably this indicates that the Washing of personal linen &c. was a five-weekly event in the late eighteenth century. See also entry for Aug. 12, 1795.



his Age 0. 1. 0. Dinner to day, Souce & a Neck of Mutton roasted. Very cold this Evening & severe Frost.

Dec. 2, Friday. . . . Very smart Frost & extremely cold all the day. Sent Ben round to the People that pay me Tythe, to come on Tuesday next & pay their dues, and to dine with me on that day. Dr. Thorne made us a Morning Visit. Bowles's Wife brought us a fine Hare. Dinner to day, hash Mutton & a Rabbit roasted. Recd. for Butter at 1<sup>s</sup>/1<sup>d</sup>, 0. 5. 5. Ben returned in good time and tolerably sober.

Dec. 3, Saturday. . . . We had a very severe Frost all last Night, it froze very sharp within doors. The Milk in the Dairy froze & Water above Stairs froze this morning after Betty had carried it above Stairs for my washing before I got up. Sent Briton this morning to Norwich after News & other things, it was his own option. He went on Rodney & returned in good time safe & well (thank God) & all Orders performed. It was bitter cold all the day with rough Wind. Dinner to day, boiled Pork & a Rabbit roasted.

Dec. 4, Sunday. . . . Mr. Corbould did Duty at Weston Church this Afternoon. He called on us as he went to Church. We did not go to Church being so very cold and much Snow on the Ground. The very severe cold Weather affected me Much this Day indeed. Notwithstanding it is so cold, we have not had our beds warmed at all as yet. Mr. Corbould neither eat or drank at our House. Dinner to day boiled Pork & a Turkey roasted. It froze sharp all the Day & within Doors.

Dec. 6, Tuesday. We breakfasted, dined &c. again at home. Very hard Frost, freezes sharp within Doors. This being my Tithe Audit Day, the following People paid me their respective Compositions and dined & spent the Aft. at my House—John Girling, Willm.

Howlett, John Baker, James Jermyn, John Buck Junr., Step. Andrews, Henry Case, Robt. Emeris, Michl. Andrews, John Mann Junr., Js. Pegg, Betty Bush for her Father, Willm. Bidewell, John Norton, Thos. Reynolds Junr., John Culley, Charles Hardy, Mary Pratt, Henry Rising for his Father, Charles Cary, John Hubbard, John Heavers, George Field, and Andrew Spraggs, also Stephen Andrews Junr. I gave them for Dinner, a Surloin of Beef roasted, the best part of a Rump of Beef with the Sliff-Marrow bone boiled, a very fine leg of Mutton boiled & Capers, Salt Fish, with Plenty of plumb & plain Puddings &c. Wine, Punch, & strong Beer to drink after. 7. Bottles of Wine, 4. Bottles of Rum, and plenty of very good strong Beer. They stayed with me till 12. at Night and then left me. Everything went off very Well, till Hugh Bush came to my House, about 11. at Night quite drunk from Norwich and was so noisy and disagreeable as made it unpleasant—His two Daughters here also. It vexed me a great deal to see him so. John Norton behaved extremely well, his Wife still a Cripple. I sent her by him o. 2. 6. Recd. for Tithe to day 289. 9. 6. Paid Stephen Andrews, for 2. Coomb Peas 1. 12. o. Paid Ditto, for Carriage of Coal o. 10. o. Paid Ditto, for a Church Rate at [figure omitted] Paid Wm. Bidewell for Carriage of Coal o. 15. o. Paid J<sup>n</sup> Mann, for Carriage of Coal o. 10. o.

Dec. 8, Thursday. . . . Thank God! had a good Night of rest altogether tho' had a little Matter of the Cramp in the Night. It froze again in the Night very sharply and the Thawe in the Evening last Night has made the whole Land a continued Sheet of Ice, but fortunately about 11. this Morning it snowed so as to cover the Ice, but did not continue long. Most bitter cold indeed this

- Morning and now likely to last, The Barometer rising & Therm. falling. Recd. of my Butcher for Tallow at 5<sup>d</sup>, o. 2. 8½. Dinner to day, Souce & a fine Hare roasted. I was but indifferent to day, bad Appetite.
- Dec. 10, Saturday. . . . Bidewell's People brought our Newspapers to day. Mr. Corbould & Family came home Thursday. News respecting Peace rather favourable of it.<sup>1</sup>
- Dec. 12, Monday. . . . Had a fat Pig killed this morning by Thomas Thurston which weighed 13. Stone. Very cold raw Thawe, very bad walking & cold. . . .
- Dec. 14, Wednesday. . . . Mr. Foster of Lenewade-Bridge called on me this Morning, and I paid him a Bill for Flour &c. for this Year 5. 5. o. Paid him also for College Land, 1. Yr. 16. o. o.
- Dec. 15, Thursday. . . . Of Mr. Aldridge this Morning, for 7. Yards of Cotton for a Morning Gown, at 1<sup>s</sup>/10<sup>d</sup>, pd. o. 12. 10. Paid him also a Bill for a Wig had from Town last Year, & which he paid for me in London 1. 6. o. Paid him also for a Piece of Irish Cloth for Shirts, 25. Yards at 3<sup>s</sup>/8<sup>d</sup>, 4. 11. 8. Paid him in the whole the Sum of 6. 10. 6. Dinner to day, Loin of Pork roasted &c.
- Dec. 17, Saturday. . . . Bidewells People brought our Newspapers & a Letter for Miss W. from her Br. William of Gallhampton near Castle-Cary, Somerset. N.B. Compts being forgot in the Letter, Willm. put them on a very small strip of Paper and fixed it between the Seal & one Side of the Letter in the folding down of the same which made it a double Letter & I am to pay for it as such. I think it rather too dear to pay for Compts & should have been thought of by him. William's Wife wrote the Letter, therefore I should

<sup>1</sup> But see entry for December 31.

- have inserted as such. Willm. only added the *very expensive* Compts. Very little News on the Papers, no bad.
- Dec. 21, Wednesday. . . . This being St. Thomas's Day, I gave to the Poor of Weston at 6<sup>d</sup>. apiece 1. 7. 0. Mr. Mellish made us a Morning Visit. Dinner to day, Hash Mutton & a Rabbit roasted &c. It was a cheery Day for the Poor People, tho' cold, it being good walking & dry over head.
- Dec. 24, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Very hard Frost indeed, last Night, froze above Stairs in the Stair-Case window quite hard. It froze the whole day within doors in a few Minutes—very severe Weather indeed—So cold last Night that it was a long time before I could get any sleep at all. I am much afraid that the Turnips will suffer greatly by the present severe Weather, being almost entirely uncovered—We want Snow. Dinner to day, Neck of Mutton boiled & a Fowl roasted. Betty Cary went to Norwich to day and brought our News &c. She brought a Letter for me from my Brother and another for Nancy from Jenny Pounsett now at Cole Place, Somersett. We were obliged to have Hulver-branches without berries to dress up our Windows &c. against Christmas, the Weather having been so severe all this Month, that the poor Birds have entirely already stript the Bushes.
- Dec. 25, Xmas Day, Sunday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. This Day the coldest we have had yet and Frost more severe. It froze all the Day long and within Doors, the last Night intensely cold. Mr. Corbould read Prayers & administered the H. Sacrament this Morning at Weston Church. He called on us as he went and also on his return from Church. He said the cold at Church was so great as to make him tremble again. We did not go, the Weather being so severe.

- This being Christmas Day, the following People had their Dinner at my House, Widow Case, old Thos. Atterton, Christ. Dunnell, Edwd. Howes, Robt. Downing and my Clerk, Thos. Thurston. Dinner to day, Surloin of Beef roasted, plumb Puddings and mince Pies. My Appetite this very cold Weather very bad. The Cold pierces me thro' almost on going to bed, cannot get to sleep for a long time, We however do not have our beds warmed. Gave the People that dined here to day before they went, to each of them 1. Shilling 0.6.0. After they had dined they had some strong Beer.
- Dec. 26, Monday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Very hard Frost with a strong cutting E. Wind. To Charles Wibley, Blacksmith's Man, gave 1. 0. To Jos. Edwards, Malsters Man, gave 1. 0. To Willm. Mason, of Sparham, with a Bell-Harp, who generally makes me a Xmas Visit 1. 6. Paid Willm. Hardy, Mason, a Bill of 0. 19. 6. Mr. Corbould made us a long Morning Visit. Amazingly cold & hard Frost with rough E. Wind all the Day long, colder than ever. Dinner to day, boiled Pork & a Rabbit roasted.
- Dec. 30, Friday. . . . Quite mild, thank God, all the day long but dark, windy and damp.
- Dec. 31, Saturday. We breakfasted, dined, &c. again at home. Very Mild but dark and damp. Dinner to day, a boiled Rabbit & Onion Sauce, Peas-Soup and a breast of Mutton roasted &c. To John Shorten, Miller's Man, by J<sup>n</sup> Lillistone 1. 0. Mrs. Bidewell brought our Newspapers to day and likewise a Letter for Miss Woodforde from her Brother Saml., now at Sr. Thos. Champneys<sup>1</sup> at his Seat at Orcherly near Frome in

<sup>1</sup> Sir Thomas Champneys (1745-1821), 1st Bt. (created 1767), of Orchardleigh, Co. Somerset. The Baronetcy became extinct on the death of his son in 1839. (Cokayne's *Complete Baronetage*, vol. v, pp. 143-4.)



Somersett giving her some Description of a late Masquerade Ball, given at the House, upwards of one Hundred & fifty genteel People at it. It was said on the Papers, that it was of the first Degree of Taste. Saml. was at it, being there to paint some Portraits.<sup>1</sup> The Treaty on Peace, between England & France, which has been some time transacting, broke off very suddenly last Week by the French & our Negociator, Ld. Malmesbury ordered to leave Paris in 48 Hours—bad News indeed. The French in short, are afraid of making Peace, for fear of the Consequences which might arise from their dismembering their great Armies. Tho' very unfavourable the present aspect of public Affairs throughout Europe, at the Conclusion of the Year 1796—May God so direct the Minds of Men before the Conclusion of the ensuing Year, that a general Peace and every blessing attending it, may be felt in every Nation of Europe & over the whole World and whenever such Blessings arrive, May we all with one Heart & one Mind give our Most hearty thanks to that God for the same, and not unmindful of him Now or for ever.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> On Samuel Woodforde see foot-notes p. 208, vol. i, and p. 138, vol. ii, also entry for October 1, 1785, vol. ii.

<sup>2</sup> Lord Malmesbury (Sir James Harris 1746–1820) had proceeded to Paris, following on the promise contained in the King's Speech to Parliament on October 6 (see foot-note to entry for October 8). Pitt was forced to seek peace by the unfavourable position of affairs. One by one our allies had dropped away, and two of them, the Dutch and the Spaniards, had become our enemies—Spain declaring war in October. Italy, through the victories of Bonaparte, was rapidly becoming a French dominion. Ireland was seething with disaffection, and the heavy taxation made the war unpopular in England. In the negotiations England stipulated for the restoration of Belgium to Austria, otherwise France was to retain her conquests and to receive back her colonies in the East and West Indies, which our fleets had enabled us to conquer. The captured Dutch colonies we would retain. These terms were rejected by the victorious Directory on December 19, and Lord Malmesbury was summarily dismissed from France.

# INDEX<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> For this Index I am indebted to Mrs. K. A. Patmore.

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